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JULY 2014

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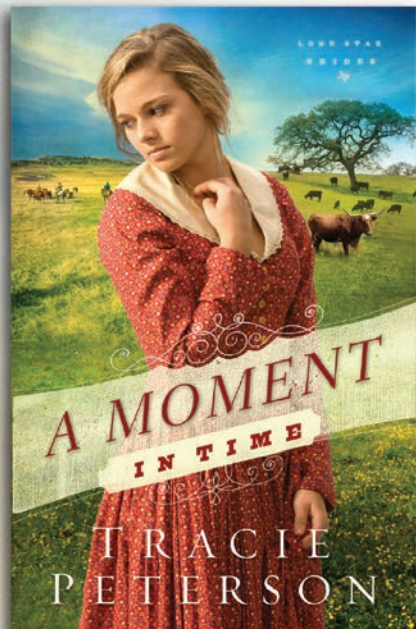
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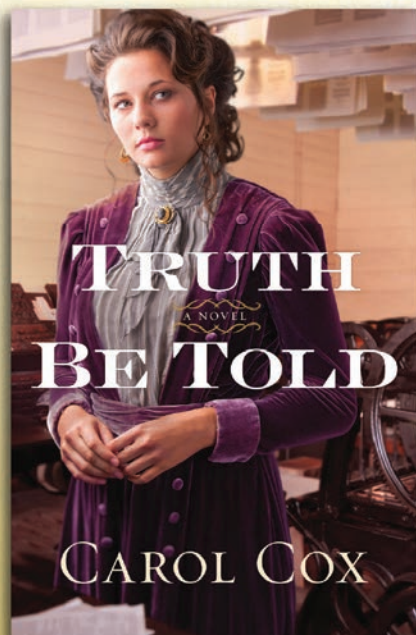


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**OPENING SHOT**

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## 1 Crime Doesn't Pay

During the June 1893 Battle of Stone Corral, near Visalia, California, notorious train robber John Sontag's stomach and shoulder wounds were so bad, he tried to kill himself by firing a shot into his own head, only making his misery worse. Sontag, surrounded below by lawmen and citizen possemen, was moved to the jail in Fresno, where he died on July 3, 1893, shortly after his 32nd birthday. California outlaw historian John Boessenecker identified the posse for us: (from left) Samuel Stingley, H.L. Rapelje, Luke Hall, George Witty, William English, Tom Burns, U.S. Marshal George Gard and journalists Jo P. Carroll and Harry Stuart. Rapelje, Burns and Gard participated in the gunfight; the fourth officer involved, Fred Jackson, was wounded and is missing from the photo.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -





True West captures the spirit of the West with authenticity, personality and humor by providing a necessary link from our history to our present.

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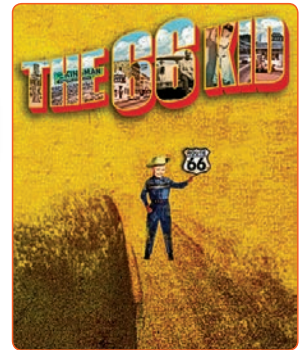
Joseph E. Smith, a former rancher-turned-photographer in 1884 Socorro, New Mexico, took this undated photograph of armed men and their dogs in the wilds of New Mexico. Find this and more historical photography on our "Gunslingers" board.

[Pinterest.com/TrueWestMag](https://www.pinterest.com/TrueWestMag)



Go behind the scenes of True West with Bob Boze Bell and find out more about his new book, *The 66 Kid* (search for "April 4, 2014").

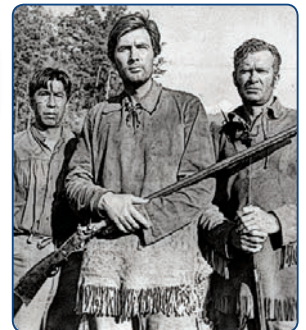
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### Join the Conversation

"Grew up watching Davy Crockett, even had the little 45 record and story book. Got the nickname of Crockett because I listened to that record so much I wore it out!"

-Dave Collins of Brandon, Florida



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**20 THE GUNFIGHTERS**

We've gathered the best photographs of the baddest of the badmen, including five never-before-published images and a rare shot of a Western gunfight in progress!

—*The Editors / Photographs from the Robert G. McCubbin Collection*

**70 ONCE UPON A TIME IN THE WEST**

For your summer travels, you need a place to hang your hat. Try one of the West's historic hotels where the famous (and not so famous) slept.

—*Allen Barra and Margaret Barra*

**Watch our videos!**

Scan your mobile device over any of the QR codes in this magazine to instantly stream original *True West* videos or be transported to our websites.



Design by Dan Harshberger



## DERN SHOOTIN'

Bruce Dern is a rat. Bruce Dern is a flea on a rat. Bruce Dern is an amoeba on a flea on a rat [*Truth Be Known*, March 2014]. John Wayne's *The Cowboys* is my favorite Western movie; I have watched it at least twice a week since 1973. I never get tired of seeing those little boys "bringing in the herd." After Bruce's character kills Wayne's character, my favorite scene is seeing him the next morning with that big blue broken nose. My next favorite scene is when he gets dragged to death by the horse. I know this all happened more than 40 years ago, but I hope that horse is still running. A writer of Western fiction myself, I understand that a story is only as good as the villain, but Bruce Dern really outdid himself.

—Phyllis Morreale-de la Garza  
Willcox, Arizona



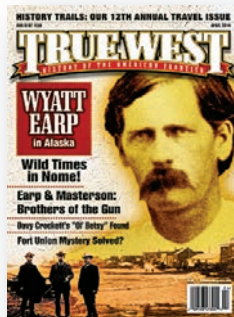
## PIONEER STORIES

Your April 2014 issue may be the best *True West* to date—and I go back to when it started in Austin, Texas, in the 1950s!

I thought the Alaskan story ["Wyatt Earp's Alaskan Adventure" by Ann Kirschner] was excellent. Having had relatives up there, I find it a fascinating time in the West.

Also, the new *Western Books* category on self-published books is a wise move. Many people have a real story to tell that does not fit conventional book publishing. Many writers can research a story and tell it (like Johnny D. Boggs, Hampton Sides, Winston Groom, etc.), but those who have grown up with or lived a particular story now have a vastly better platform to share with the rest of the world. Coming from a pioneer family, I know lots of True West stories to be told, and they did not all happen at the end of a gun.

John D. Farr  
*Encampment, Wyoming*



### CRYPTIC NOTE FROM NEW MEXICO

“Lighten up on the Wyatt Earp stuff.”

## Tombstone Vigilantes

In our June 2014 issue, we published Victoria Wilcox's article that argued Doc Holliday's possible involvement in the Guadalupe Canyon Massacre. One of her points was that John J. Gosper, the acting governor of Arizona, may have assigned deputies, including Holliday, to employ vigilante means to rid the area of cowboy rustlers. After we published the article, Wilcox found a letter, written to Arizona's Territorial Historian Sharlot Hall on March 25, 1911, in which Gosper admitted he did in fact have a secret vigilante committee:

Dear Miss Hall:

When you were in this city some time ago, and it was my pleasure to have met you, I understood that you were to have written me again soon after reaching Phoenix. I had promised you some additional data that might be of use in the book you are preparing for publication on the History of Arizona. I understood you were to have asked me for some special information after you returned home. If, however, you desire information in relation to any certain facts, in connection with my official life in Arizona, I will be pleased to give same to you. I kept a Journal in connection with nearly every incident connected with my official life and otherwise in Arizona, and could without much trouble get exact data on certain points. Are you making any reference to the Cow Boy rackets in your History occurring at Tombstone and elsewhere. I think I informed you while I was in the Executive chair, I secretly placed a Vigilant Committee into existence at Tombstone, immediately after the Ike Clanton forces raided the City of Tombstone for the purpose of killing Wyatt Earp, then City Marshal\* to prevent his becoming a candidate for Sheriff in competition with Johnny Behan who was known to be friendly toward the Cow Boys.

Will be glad to hear from you at your convenience.

Yours very truly,  
J.J. Gosper

\*Actually, Wyatt's brother Virgil was city marshal, and Wyatt served periodically as Virgil's deputy.

## 2 Ike Clanton

Reluctant gunfighter Ike Clanton fled the most famous gunfight in history, the Gunfight Behind the O.K. Corral, on October 26, 1881.

—COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION —



# Classic Gunfighters

*The look we want to see versus the look of the times.*

**I**t's pretty rare that we get to see legendary gunfighters wearing guns in the manner we have come to expect in the popular imagination. With the exception of Wild Bill Hickok and a few others, most of the photographs of gunfighters that survive are of the mug shot variety—banker-style portraits sans weapons. That's why the three examples on this page are so amazing. These guys look the part. They look how we would have liked to have seen Wyatt Earp, John Wesley Hardin, Luke Short and Buckskin Frank Leslie attired.

Why didn't more of these gunmen pose, decked out in gunfighter garb? For one thing, men like Earp didn't see themselves as gunfighters. Earp primarily saw himself as a gambler and a saloon owner. He posed for photographs as a formality, not as an opportunity to show off his frontier garb. Granted, the photo of Earp and Bat Masterson in Dodge City, Kansas, comes close. Both appear to be wearing a belt to hold a weapon, or two. But even so, that photo is not on the same level as our pards shown at right.

In this issue we feature some new photographs, courtesy of the king of the gunfighter photo collectors, Robert G. McCubbin. We count five photos that have never been published, and two that have rarely been published (see #26 Buckskin Frank Leslie and #33 Johnny Ringo).

Anyway you cut it, these guys had sand. You can't hide that, even in a formal photograph.



For a behind-the-scenes look at running this magazine, check out BBB's daily blog at [TWMag.com](http://TWMag.com)

## 3-5 Gunfighters

Three gunfighters who look how we wish the big names looked (clockwise, from right): Wild Ben Raymond, a mine guard, posing in Leadville, Colorado; James B. "Jim" Hawkins, Texas Ranger; and Phillip Cuney "P.C." Baird, also a Texas Ranger.

— (CLOCKWISE, FROM RIGHT) COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION, CHUCK PARSONS AND JAMES BAIRD FAMILY —



Quotes

“Nothing ages so quickly as yesterday’s vision of the future.”

– Richard Corliss, movie critic for Time

“I will say this about conspiracy theorists—their faith in the competence of others is almost inspirational.”

– Alan Mott, B-movie critic @HouseOfGlib

**“If a man has done his best, what else is there?”**

– George S. Patton, U.S. Army general

“History must stay open, it is all humanity.”

– William Carlos Williams, poet

“It is up to us; there is no one left to blame. Neither the system, nor our leaders, nor our parents. We can’t go out and hang the first amoeba.”

– Rebecca McClen Novick, Buddhist author

“Never look for birds of this year in the nests of yesteryear.”

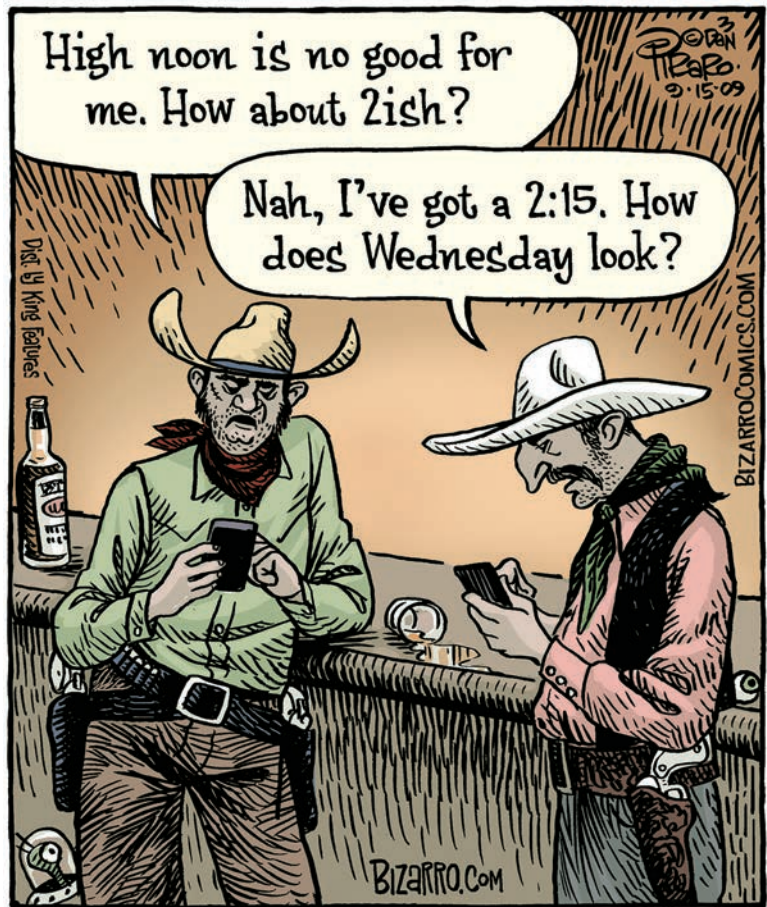
– Miguel de Cervantes, in Don Quixote



“Not everyone is lucky enough to understand how delicious it is to suffer.”

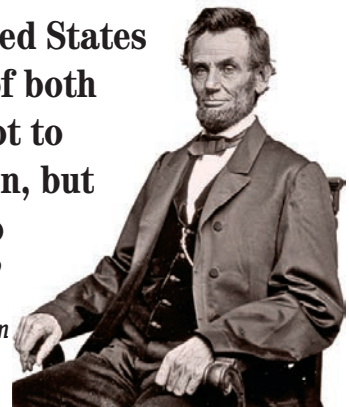
– Actress Katherine Hepburn

Bizarro BY DAN PIRARO



**“The people of these United States are the rightful masters of both Congresses and courts, not to overthrow the Constitution, but to overthrow the men who pervert the Constitution.”**

– Abraham Lincoln



Old Vaquero Saying



“Sometimes you have to be silent to be heard.”

America Remembers Presents

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Today, America Remembers is proud to announce the U.S. Marshals Tribute Rifle, honoring the legendary lawmen who have served America for more than 200 years. The Tribute is issued in cooperation with the U.S. Marshals Service Association. Tributes now available in the edition are issued on the lever-action Model 92 Winchester Rifle in caliber .45 LC, a rifle with a reputation as a classic Western firearm. Craftsmen commissioned for this Tribute by America Remembers decorate each rifle in elegant 24-karat gold and nickel with a special blackened patinae background to highlight the details of the artwork honoring some of the most renowned Marshals who ever served.

## The Wild West Frontier

In 1873, young buffalo hunters ranged out onto the prairies from the wild cow town of Dodge City. Among them were the Canadian, William B. "Bat" Masterson and his brothers. Other brothers were the Earps, led by Wyatt. Bill Tilghman was there...and Billy the Kid's nemesis, Pat Garrett. As the herds dwindled, these men were drawn back to Dodge City and business ventures. Each drifted into law enforcement and most served for a time as Deputy U.S. Marshals.

As new lands opened, they were joined by a cadre of colorful associates, including the former slave and ordained minister Bass Reeves, and the great man hunter, Henry "Heck" Thomas. They followed in the footsteps of Robert Forsyth, one of the original 13 U.S. Marshals and the first of 400 U.S. Marshals and Deputy U.S. Marshals to die in the line of duty. During the heyday of the Wild West, from the Texas ranches to the Kansas cow towns like Dodge City, to the land rushes in Oklahoma and Indian Territories, these lawmen always had one thing in common: a Winchester rifle at the ready.

## An Exclusive Edition

Only 500 of the U.S. Marshals Tribute Rifles will ever be produced. Reservations will be accepted in the order they are received. We will arrange delivery of your working rifle through a licensed firearms dealer of your choice. If for any reason you are less than satisfied, you may return it in original unfired condition within 30 days for a full refund.

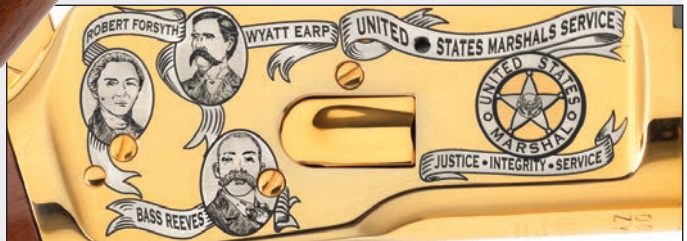
Order now, and you can revisit a time when America was young, and a few brave lawmen brought law and order to a vast frontier.

Feel the incomparable balance of this classic rifle in your hands. Study the detailed depictions of these legendary lawmen and imagine them as they looked down the barrel of their own rifles a hundred years ago. Hold history in your hands and silently give thanks to the brave men and women who wore the star.



The Tribute is authorized by the U.S. Marshals Service Association.

Right side features three legendary U.S. Marshals. Robert Forsyth was the first Marshal to die in the line of duty. Bass Reeves was one of the earliest African-American Marshals, and he fearlessly served in the Indian Territories. Also featured is Wyatt Earp, who served briefly as a Deputy Marshal, but whose legend looms larger than almost any who wore the star. Rich nickel banners feature their names, as well as "United States Marshals Service" and the Marshal motto of "Justice • Integrity • Service."



Left side of the receiver features artwork representing U.S. Marshals at work: a pair of lawmen with an outlaw in shackles, a Marshal astride his trusted horse and the classic badge design. Also featured are portraits of William "Bat" Masterson, a sharp dresser and an even sharper shot; Bill "Two Gun" Tilghman and "Heck" Thomas who brought law and order to notoriously violent Indian Territory.



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# The Killing of Bill Tilghman

*Self-defense? Or murder?*

A sterling reputation won't block a lead bullet. Famed Old West lawman Bill Tilghman learned that lesson firsthand, in an ugly, smelly, Oklahoma oil town in the mid-1920s.

By the time he got to Cromwell, Tilghman was a living legend—a lawman in Dodge City, Kansas, in the 1870s and 1880s, and one of the “Three Guardsmen” deputy U.S. marshals who helped clean up Indian Territory in the 1890s.

To be fair, he had also committed some acts on the other side of the law (horse stealing, maybe robbery, corruption), but much of that was forgotten, especially after he made his biographical film, *The Passing of the Oklahoma Outlaws*, in 1915.

Tilghman used his reputation to get the job as Cromwell city marshal in 1924 at the age of 70 (he also may have been working as an undercover agent for the governor). He was charged with keeping the peace in the hell-raisin’ town where Prohibition was more of a suggestion than a law.

Then Tilghman ran into Wiley Lynn.

Lynn, in his early 30s, was a federal Prohibition agent, and he and Tilghman didn't get along. Lynn's cronies claimed Tilghman accepted bribes for allowing vice to flourish in town. The

Tilghman faction claimed Lynn was the drunk and the crook.

The two men had it out on the night of November 1, 1924.

The commonly told story about the killing, one put out in history books and TNT's *You Know My Name*, is that a drunk Lynn, accompanied by a soldier and a couple of floozies, drove up in front of Pop Murphy's dance hall when his gun

The marshal jammed a pistol into his ribs, saying that he was going to kill him.



## 6 Bill Tilghman

Shown at the height of his law and order fame, in Perry, Oklahoma, in 1893, Bill Tilghman (standing in the front row, far right, leaning on his Winchester) met his end at the hands of another law officer.

— TRUE WEST ARCHIVES —

went off. Tilghman confronted him; Lynn responded by shooting the lawman two or three times. He died 20 minutes later. Lynn drove to Holdenville and surrendered to authorities.

But other tales came out once Lynn's murder trial was underway on May 22, 1925—and the best account of the proceedings is in

Johnny D. Boggs's *Great Murder Trials of the Old West*. The defense claimed that Tilghman had been trying to stop Lynn from raiding Pop Murphy's. The marshal grabbed Lynn with one hand and jammed a pistol into his ribs, saying that he was going to kill him. At that point, Lynn got his gun out and shot Tilghman.

Lynn testified in his own defense, re-enacting the shooting. For whatever

reason, the prosecution didn't put Hugh Sawyer, Tilghman's deputy, on the stand—and he was the closest person to the two when the guns went off.

Lynn was found not guilty.

Zoe, the marshal's widow, never accepted that ruling. She wrote articles and books, painting her husband as a saint and proclaiming that he had been murdered by a drunk and corrupt Prohibition man. Lynn unwittingly helped her arguments. With his law enforcement career over, he drank heavily and was arrested a few times—before dying in a gunfight in 1932.

So what happened? Was Tilghman murdered, or did Lynn shoot him in self-defense? The truth probably lies in the middle, as Tilghman and Lynn were flawed men who played both sides of the law.

Tilghman's reputation couldn't block those lead bullets—but ultimately the slugs did little to destroy the man's reputation. Lynn wasn't so lucky. ❏

# Saving the Wall Street of the West

*Livestock trading built up the Fort Worth Stockyards and almost brought it down.*

Visitors to Fort Worth Stockyards can watch re-enactments in February (the anniversary of Luke Short and Jim Courtright's famous 1887 gunfight) and on weekends during the summer, from May 24 up to Labor Day.

— COURTESY LEGENDS OF TEXAS —

**S**ay “Stockyards,” and everyone knows that means Fort Worth, Texas. Anyone visiting the city today is struck by how beautifully the historic stockyards have been preserved.

So it's unsettling to realize that except for a few people—a Fort Worth firefighter family among them—all that would have disappeared. What we take for granted today wasn't at all assured back in 1976, when the Fort Worth Stockyards were going the way of wreck and ruin.

It's sad to see glory days disappear, and they certainly did in this case.

Being the last stop on the way north to railheads in Indian Country in the 1860s, Fort Worth is where drovers herding longhorn up the Chisholm Trail stopped for rest. When the railroad arrived in 1876, the town was no longer a place to pass through, but the destination and shipping point. The Union Stockyards opened in 1889, and it didn't take long to see how lucrative all this could be. Between 1866 and 1890, some four million head of cattle came through Fort Worth.

In 1893, a New England businessman and investors bought out the stockyards for \$133,333.33 and changed the name to



The Fort Worth Stockyards were going the way of wreck and ruin.

Fort Worth Stockyards. He attracted meat packing dynamos, with both Armour & Co. and Swift & Co. building plants nearby. The cows kept coming. So did hogs and sheep and mules and horses.

The peak year came during WWII, in 1944, when the Fort Worth Stockyards processed 5,277,496 head of livestock. Forty-two years later came the all-time low of 57,181 animals. By then, the decline was irreversible—roads made trucking the more flexible transport of cattle over railroads; other communities set up their own livestock auctions and yards; the huge processing plants were outdated and too expensive. Armour closed its plant in 1962; Swift closed in 1971.

Fires destroyed some of the buildings, while others were falling apart from neglect. “Hard times” is how old-timers remember it.

Then came a local firefighter named Charlie McCafferty and his wife, Sue. Charlie's father had been weighmaster on the No. 1 scale, and as a kid, Charlie carved his initials into that scale.

“If we don't do something, we'll lose the stockyards,” he's remembered for telling Sue, who shared his love of Western history.

Together, they created the North Fort Worth Historical Society in 1976, quickly getting the stockyards declared a National Historic District. By 1989—100 years after it all officially began—they opened the Stockyards Museum in the 1902 Exchange Building.

Charlie and Sue are gone, but about 20 volunteers keep everything going under the leadership of director Teresa Burselson.

Keith Bridwell is one of those volunteers, and he's right proud of what the society has done.

“If you don't know your past, you don't know where you're going,” he says. “We're here to help educate people about this rich history.”

The museum attracts thousands of visitors from around the world, and one artifact helps illuminate why saving all this was so important: it's a 106-year-old light bulb that is still burning.



Arizona's Journalist of the Year, **Jana Bommersbach** has won an Emmy and two Lifetime Achievement Awards. She also cowrote and appeared on the Emmy-winning *Outrageous Arizona* and is the author of two nationally-acclaimed true crime books and a children's book.

# Uncle Wyatt's Gun?

The auction of Glenn Boyer's alleged Earp weapons opens the door to discussing other Wyatt Earp guns.

“Is he a liar now, or was he a liar then?” is the central theme of Glenn Boyer's accounts on Wyatt Earp.

“Caveat emptor” never applied more to an auction than the sale of Boyer's purported Earp collectibles at J. Levine Auction in Scottsdale, Arizona, on April 17. The top-selling weapon, Wyatt's alleged Colt .45, was even stretched as possibly being carried by the lawman at the 1881 O.K. Corral shoot-out in Tombstone.

Boyer's “provenance” is a typewritten letter dictated by Bill Miller to daughter LaVonne Griffin, attesting to the weapons and their ownership. Bill was married to Estelle, Wyatt's niece. The letter claims “Sadie,” a nickname for Wyatt's widow, Josie, probably gave the gun to actor Tom Mix. Bill advised Boyer to search “hock shops” to see if he could locate the Colt.

The letter is strange because, 25 years after Bill's death, in 1999, Boyer said he had never asked Bill for documentation for the guns. A copy of his statement, which appeared on Boyer's website, was provided to us by Casey Tefertiller, author of *Wyatt Earp: The Life Behind the Legend*. Before that, in 1994, Boyer signed an affidavit that confirms he did not have such documentation from Bill. Did Boyer type the letter up later, to give his weapons an air of provenance?

The serial number, 5686, ties the alleged Wyatt Colt to a batch of Colts purchased by the U.S. Army in 1874, putting it in circulation before the 1881 gunfight. Those who knew Boyer won't be surprised that even the serial number is in question. Boyer, or someone, filed it off the gun, and



The auction house promoted the pistol that Bill Miller called “Uncle Wyatt's old long barrel Colt” as the “OK Corral Gun—Wyatt Earp Colt 45 Revolver.” A collector bid \$225,000 for the gun, which has undergone alterations; only the frame is original.



the number represented at auction was determined via x-ray testing.

The Boyer auction is not the first time someone has tried to represent a gun as being at the O.K. Corral gunfight. John Gilchriese claimed this about a Smith & Wesson, says Jeff Morey, the historian who first revealed Boyer's big whoppers in 1994 (which eventually led to the University of Arizona admitting Boyer's *I Married Wyatt Earp* had a “fictional format”). The Autry National Center in Los Angeles purchased that gun, but it was later determined to be a presentation revolver given to John Clum.

Nor is this the first time a Wyatt gun has made waves in the Earp community. In this magazine, in February/March 2001, Randy Smith argued “one revolver...can be clearly associated with Earp with little doubt of its authenticity.” He stated the Republican party gave Wyatt a Colt .45, serial 40609, when he left Dodge City, Kansas, in 1879. The gun has a backstrap engraved with “Wyatt Earp, 1879,” allegedly by Dodge City jeweler Francis J. Durand.

Morey recalls that when the editors of *Guns & Ammo* looked at the engraving in the 1980s, they felt the edges were not sufficiently worn down by use to have been executed in 1879. That issue could be settled by testing the engraving to see if it matches the oxidation exhibited by other areas of the gun. Without knowing the results of such a test, the jury is still out on that gun.

Even the gun that has the best provenance one can hope for in a Wyatt firearm was given with a story that Wyatt had carried it in Tombstone.

The Arizona Historical Society owns that Colt .45, serial number

87145, donated by the family of Lincoln Ellsworth. Josie gave the gun to Ellsworth after learning he had christened the ship for his Antarctic expeditions *Wyatt Earp*; Ellsworth's fascination with Wyatt extended to his crew members, who read Stuart Lake's *Wyatt Earp, Frontier Marshal* and Walter Noble Burns's *Tombstone*, kept in the ship's library.

The gun is accompanied by two handwritten letters by Josie. “In the

Why would anyone trust an admitted liar and faker of historical artifacts?

## UPCOMING AUCTION

July 26, 2014

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Notable Glenn Boyer Estate's  
Earp Firearm Lots Included

(All images courtesy Olson  
Communications)



Descriptions in the letter signed by Bill Miller to authenticate the Earp weapons (from top) he gave to Glenn Boyer: "We almost forgot Uncle Virge's Colt #14181, it's yours too" (\$37,500); "The old cap and ball remington was Grandpa Earps and Mom said her mom (grandma Edwards) said [her] dad carried it when he was a marshal in Iowa, and across the plains, and here as J.P. [justice of the peace]" (\$12,000); and "Uncle Wyatt's Winchester lever action shotgun, .10 gauge #47055" (\$50,000).

first two letters Josephine describes the provenance of the .45 Colt as being given to Wyatt by Wells Fargo detective Jim Hume and used by Virgil Earp as well as Wyatt, during Tombstone days," says Laraine Daly Jones, museum collections manager.

The gun is an 1873 Single Action Army, yet it was shipped from the Colt factory to New York in 1883, which means it is not old enough to have seen service during Wyatt's Tombstone days.

"It is important to note that most of the anecdotes Josephine told Ellsworth about the [gun] were simply not true," wrote Neil Carmony, in his investigation published in the April-June 2002 edition of *Quarterly of the National Association for Outlaw and Lawman History*. His report does confirm that Josie wrote those two letters.

In her first letter to Ellsworth, Josie wrote she would tell him the "history of the gun as far as I know, what I have heard Wyatt say." After revealing the details in her second letter, dated November 1, 1936, she admitted, "I just can not remember all."

Josie was 75 years old when she wrote Ellsworth. Wyatt had left Tombstone 54 years before, and he had been dead for

nearly eight years. That she didn't get the history right does not invalidate the gun as being one owned by her husband.

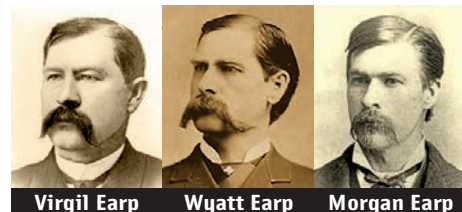
Josie did not, however, fabricate documents to support her account, as Boyer had with his Clum manuscript that changed the story of the O.K. Corral gunfight by having Doc Holliday and Morgan Earp start the shoot-out.

Why would anyone trust an admitted liar and faker of historical artifacts? Boyer brushed such questions of his credibility aside, saying in 1998, "Who else knew all these people? Who else today knows all the people who are still living?... I should get credit for what I did."

This spring some collectors gave him credit by ponying up quite a bit of dough for firearms Boyer claimed were owned by Wyatt, his father, Nicholas, and his brother Virgil. Miller, who called Boyer the "only son I ever had" in his dubious letter, commented, "...if they don't believe Glenn, he should tell them to go to hell."

The Glenn Boyer Estate made nearly \$400,000 on its Earp artifacts sold at the auction.

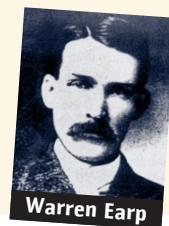
## 7-10 Seeing Triple at the O.K. Corral



"Boots off, there wasn't three pounds difference in our weights, and not one of us scaled above a hundred and fifty-eight," Wyatt Earp told biographer Stuart Lake. "Virg was the heaviest, Morg a shade heavier than I. When you add that each of us had wavy, light-brown hair, blue eyes, and a mustache of the sweeping variety then in Western fashion, you may understand why our comings and goings often were reported inaccurately and why certain persons in Arizona ascribed supernatural qualities to the Earps."

Allie, Virgil's wife, agreed: "...together they looked alike as three peas in a pod—the same height, size and mustaches. In Tombstone later men were always mistakin' one for another."

If Warren had been with his brothers at the O.K. Corral gunfight, folks would have been able to tell him apart—he had dark hair.



# BLACK POWDER REVOLVERS



1ST MODEL DRAGOON

## 1848 Dragoons

Developed in 1848, the Colt® Dragoon was issued in pairs as service firearms to members of the U.S. Army's Mounted Rifles 1st Cavalry, the first of many units known as Dragoons. The revolver had a long and distinguished history in military and civilian service during the 1850s and 1860s, including its use in the Civil War. Features a blue finish with case-hardened frame, and brass backstrap and trigger guard. R&D Conversion Cylinder sold separately.



2ND MODEL DRAGOON



3RD MODEL DRAGOON

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# A Hunter's Classic Returns

*Lever gun fans can get their hands on an authentic Model 71 replica, in the powerful .45-70 loading.*

**T**o the hunter in the field, probably the only thing better than a powerful and accurate rifle is an improved version. In the latter part of 1935, when Winchester discontinued its Model 1886 after producing almost 160,000 rifles, the manufacturer capitalized on the frontier favorite by lightening and updating the classic lever gun.

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To the hunter in the field, probably the only thing better than a powerful and accurate rifle is an improved version.

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Its replacement, the Model 71, was a simplified, strengthened, half-magazine refinement, chambered to handle the then-new .348 Winchester Center Fire (.348 WCF) cartridge, which was designed especially for the Model 71. Although the Model 71 made its public debut on New Year's Day in 1936, factory records reveal that delivery to the company's warehouse stock was as early as November 2, 1935.

Since that time, Winchester's Model 71 has been considered a hunter's classic. Although production of the rifle ceased in 1957, with 47,254 produced, lever gun fans have coveted the Model 71, both for



These two nimrods add drama to their posed, circa 1889 studio photo by striking a "ready for action" look with their hunting arms. The young fellow at left carries a standard Model 1886 Winchester, the lever gun that was replaced in 1935, when Winchester improved, strengthened and updated it to create the half-magazine configured Model 71.

— COURTESY PHIL SPANGENBERGER COLLECTION —



The Model 71 lever-action hunting rifle is a modernized and refined half-magazine improvement of Winchester's 1886 model, a frontier favorite. Cimarron's version is a slick handling replica. Its Premium model (shown) sports an attractive color case hardened receiver and pistol grip cap, and uses a select grade, hand checked European walnut stock and forearm. The inset shows the rifle with the action open.

- COURTESY CIMARRON FIRE ARMS -

stock is European walnut. Producing the M-71 reproduction in the readily available and powerful .45-70 chambering makes good sense since the .348 WCF cartridge is no longer made and finding old stock is difficult.

its handsome lines and famous lineage. Now Mike Harvey of Cimarron Fire Arms brings back the much admired Model 71 as a .45-70 replica. The rifle is manufactured in Italy by Pedersoli, the producer of many quality replicas, including the 1874 Sharps, Springfield Trapdoor and Remington Rolling Block rifles, the Kodiak Mark IV double rifle and a number of fine muzzleloaders.

Like Winchester's originals, the sleek Model 71 weighs about eight pounds and features a 24-inch, blued round barrel with the classic underbarrel, tubular half magazine that holds five cartridges (a 19-inch "Hogzilla Killa" model holding four rounds is also offered). The rifle sports the 71's traditional pistol grip stock, an adjustable semi-buckhorn rear sight and a beaded blade front sight with hood (the receiver is drilled for an optional receiver sight). The

Cimarron's "Classic" M-71 features a handsomely blued receiver and pistol grip butt cap on an attractive, straight-grained stock. Its "Premium" M-71 boasts of a beautiful color case hardened receiver and pistol grip cap, mounted on exquisitely figured select grade, hand-checked walnut.

For several months, I tried out the Premium Model 71. This past September, I took it with me on a hunt guided by Byseewah Safaris in Namibia, in southwestern Africa, during which I killed a world class, 38-inch horned gemsbok (Oryx). I used this rifle to fire a variety of ammo, including Black Hills Ammunition's reduced recoil cowboy loads using a 405-grain lead bullet with a muzzle velocity of 1,250 feet per second (fps) and Garrett's 420-grain, Super Hard Cast Hammerhead ammunition in two different loads—one that moves out at 1,350 fps (my



African load) and another that boasts of a muzzle velocity of 1,650 fps. All loadings showed excellent accuracy. This rifle's thick rubber butt pad reduces felt recoil, making shooting stout loaded .45-70s a pleasure.

If you want a classic lever-action rifle that traces its history from the Golden Age of hunting of the mid-20th century back to the Old West, then give Cimarron's Model 71 some consideration. It is one heck of a lever gun.



Phil Spangenberg has written for *Guns & Ammo*, appears on the History Channel and other documentary networks, produces Wild West shows, is a Hollywood gun coach and character actor, and is *True West's* Firearms Editor.



### HUNTER'S LOAD

Garrett Cartridges of Texas, makers of fine .45-70 and .44 Magnum ammunition, recently introduced its new .45-70 Springfield load. Using its 420-grain Super Hard Cast (custom lead alloy) Hammerhead flat-nosed bullet, this hunting load has a muzzle velocity of 1,350 feet per second and was designed for use in any factory-chambered rifle in good condition, including trapdoors and replicas. Garrett's powerful and accurate .45-70 Hammerhead ammo is the one I took with me when I hunted game in Africa—taking down Cape buffalo—and I can attest to the bone-breaking power of Garrett's .45-70 ammo.

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BY THE EDITORS

INCLUDING PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE  
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THE

# Gunfighters

**The  
baddest  
of the bad  
captured  
on film.**

Some of these badmen were so tough the only way to get a photograph of them was in death. Other gunfighters posed for many a picture (Wild Bill Hickok is one example). As time went on—and camera shutter speeds improved—a photograph emerged that showed a gunfight in progress (shown on this spread). What

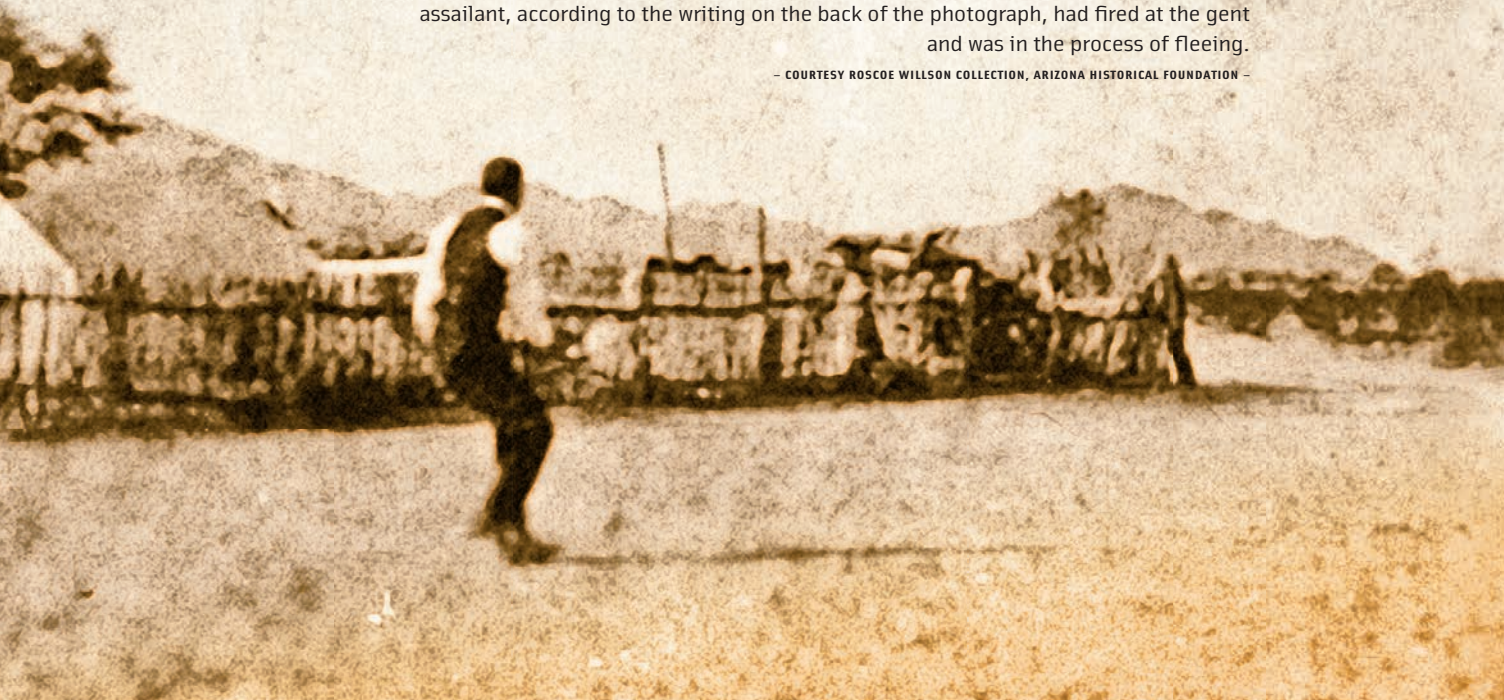
follows are some of the best photos of Western gunfighters, many scanned from the originals so you can see the fine details.

In fact, five of these incredible images have never before been published—to the best of our knowledge. Enjoy! 📷

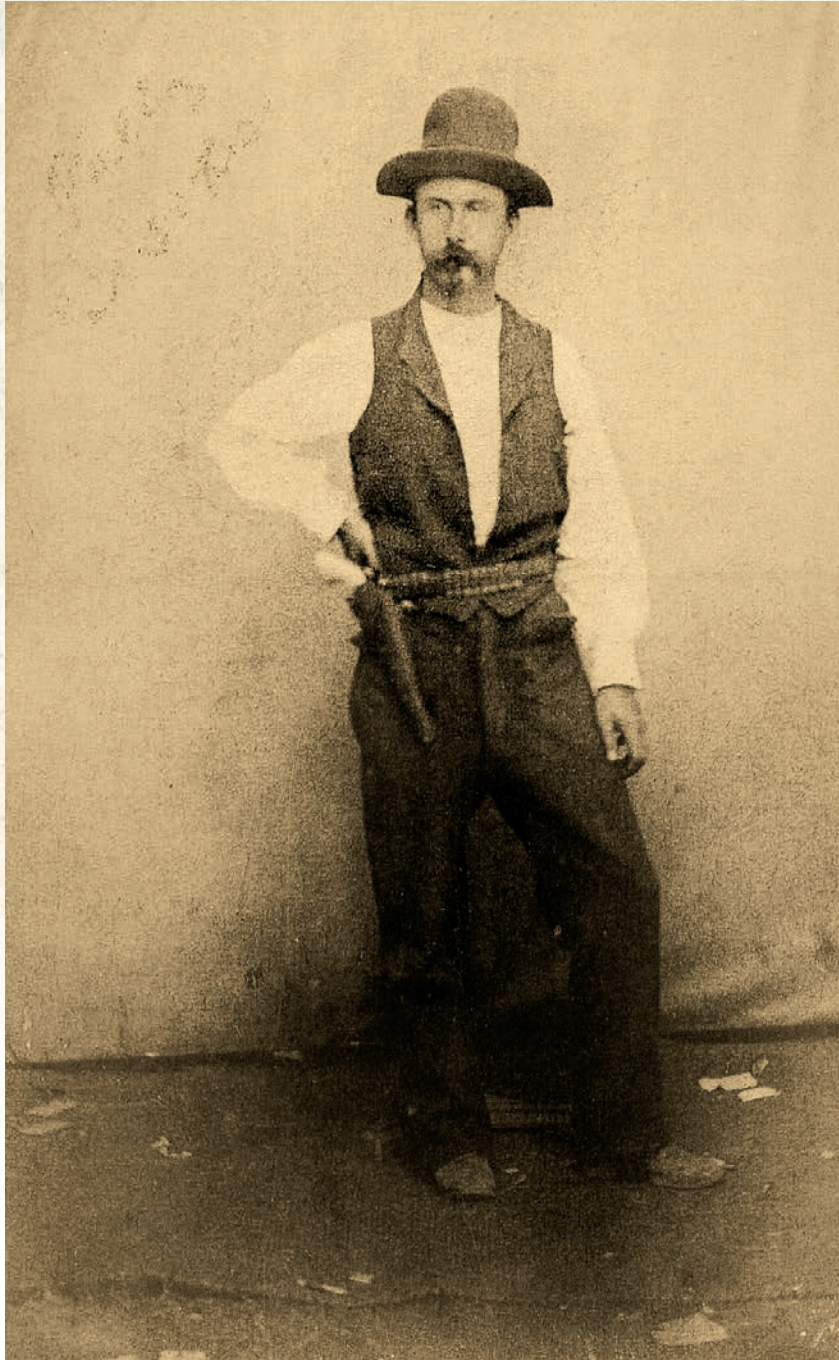
## **11** Rare Gunfight Photo

In this 1904 gunfight photo taken in Quartzsite, Arizona, the shooter, in foreground, was chasing down an assailant at the corner of the fence, who looks to be holding a rifle. The assailant, according to the writing on the back of the photograph, had fired at the gent and was in the process of fleeing.

— COURTESY ROSCOE WILLSON COLLECTION, ARIZONA HISTORICAL FOUNDATION —







## **12** Billy Brooks

Billy Brooks reportedly shot it out with several men in various gunfights while working as a marshal in Newton, Kansas, and causing trouble as a badman in Dodge City. But when he returned to his old position as a stage driver for Southwestern Stage in 1874, the company lost a mail contract and Brooks was out of a job. He and others came up with a plan to steal the rival company's horses and mules to get back the contract. After Brooks was caught and arrested, an angry mob got a hold of Brooks and two of his accomplices and hanged them.

— ALL PHOTOS COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED —



### **13** Wild Bill Hickok

Discovered in 1989, this photograph shows James "Wild Bill" Hickok with his cross-draw Navy Colts. The first man he reportedly killed was David McCanles at the Rock Creek Station in Nebraska in 1861. He also famously killed Dave Tutt in 1865 in a duel; instead of the face-to-face fast draw duel, the two men stood in a sideways dueling stance. Hickok biographer Joseph G. Rosa has written that this duel probably inspired the "showdown at noon" popularized in movies.

## **14** Black Jack Ketchum

Tom "Black Jack" Ketchum, shown here after he was captured and his right arm amputated, and shortly before he was hanged in 1901 for attempted train robbery, had emptied his rifle into the bodies of two posse members chasing him and his brother for robbing a store in Liberty, New Mexico, in 1896, before continuing on his life of crime as a train robber. The citizens of New Mexico Territory were so mad at the daring of train robbers that they made Ketchum pay with his life, marking him as the only person who suffered capital punishment for "felonious assault upon a railway train," a law later deemed unconstitutional.





## 15 Ned Christie

Wanted for allegedly killing a U.S. marshal in 1887, Ned Christie resisted arrest for nearly five years. While he hid out in his fortified house in Cherokee Nation, in 1892, posse members attacked with cannon and dynamite. Christie ran toward the posse and was shot and killed. This photograph shows their “trophy” on a cellar door.



## 16

### Little Dick West

Richard “Little Dick” West robbed banks with Bill Doolin’s gang and bungled up train robberies with Al Jennings’s gang. Deputy U.S. Marshals Bill Tilghman and Heck Thomas tracked West to Guthrie, Oklahoma, and shot him dead (right) in 1898.



## 17

### “Red Buck” Weightman

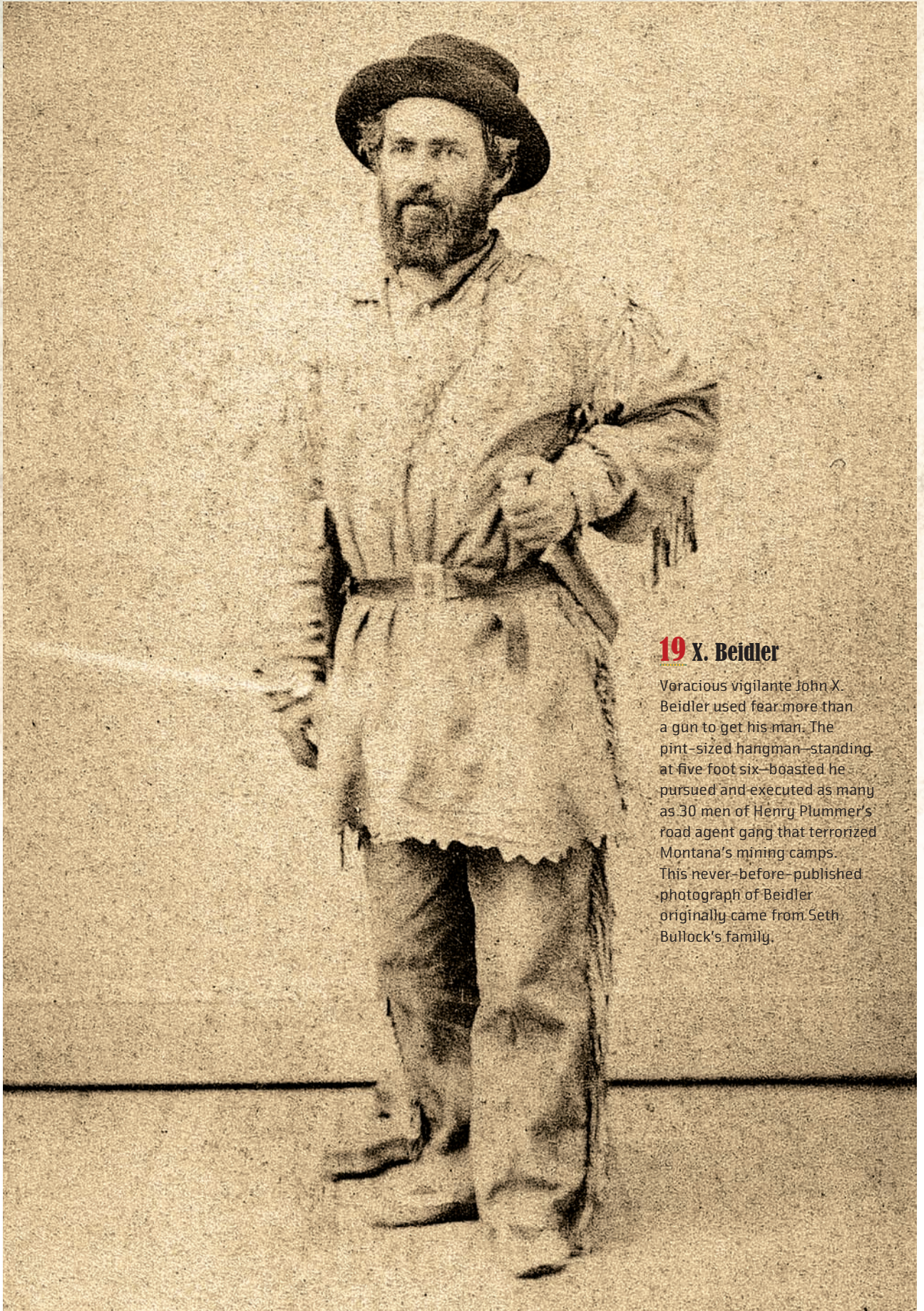
George “Red Buck” Weightman also robbed banks with Bill Doolin’s gang. After numerous failed captures of Weightman, a posse finally got their man (shown dead) in a shoot-out on March 4, 1896.



## **18** Pat Garrett

The lawman's most famous kill did not come from a gun battle. In 1881, he sneaked into Pete Maxwell's house and shot notorious outlaw Billy the Kid to death.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -



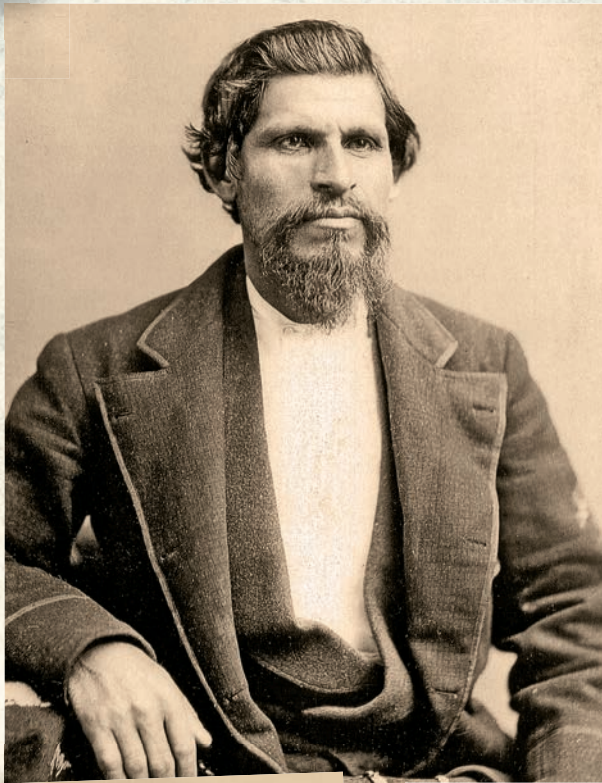
### **19** X. Beidler

Voracious vigilante John X. Beidler used fear more than a gun to get his man. The pint-sized hangman—standing at five foot six—boasted he pursued and executed as many as 30 men of Henry Plummer's road agent gang that terrorized Montana's mining camps. This never-before-published photograph of Beidler originally came from Seth Bullock's family.

**20**

**Tiburcio Vasquez**

The California bandito escaped the law after numerous gun battles, but a posse finally caught up with him in 1874, at a former camel driver's ranch house. He was hanged in 1875 for his role in the Tres Pinos raid two years earlier that resulted in the deaths of three bystanders.



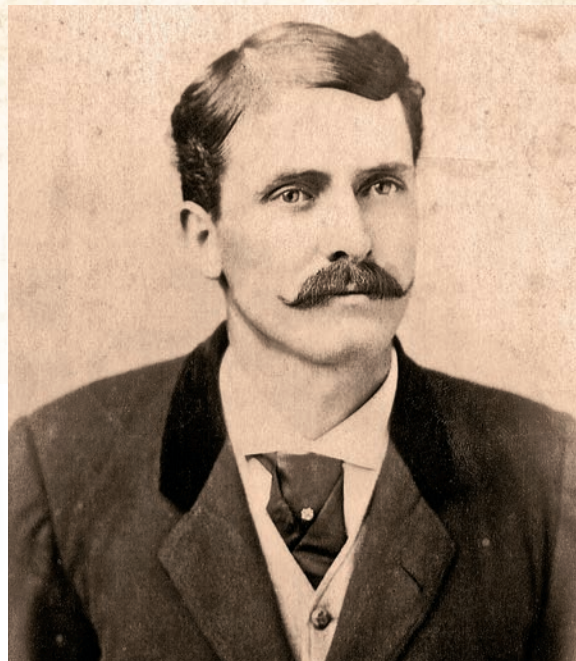
**21 Bud Ledbetter**

Bud Ledbetter, shown in this never-before-published photograph, gained a reputation for his gunfighting skills, especially after the deputy U.S. marshal assisted in bringing in four members of the train robbing Al Jennings Gang in 1897.



**22 Bill Miner**

After his third prison term, Ezra Allen Miner, better known as Bill, moved to Canada and staged one of British Columbia's first train robberies, in 1904. During another train robbery, in 1906, he got in a brief gunfight with the Royal Northwest Mounted Police. He and his crew were arrested. Miner's story inspired 1983's *The Grey Fox*, starring Richard Farnsworth as the outlaw.



**23 Bill Tilghman**

Bill Tilghman is shown here in Dodge City, Kansas, where he briefly returned during the bloodless 1883 Dodge City War. While working as a deputy U.S. marshal in the former Indian Territory, Tilghman became famous for his single-handed capture of Bill Doolin in 1895. He died in the line of duty, at the age of 70, in 1924 (see p. 12).



## **24** Seth Bullock

This never-before-published photograph of the first sheriff of Deadwood, Dakota Territory, originally came from Seth Bullock's family. During his tenure as sheriff previously, in Montana's Lewis and Clark County, he shot it out with horse thief Clell Watson. For Watson's execution by hanging, Bullock held off a mob with a shotgun. In contrast to gunfighter Wild Bill Hickok, who was murdered the day after Bullock arrived in Deadwood, Bullock tended to leave his shooter holstered as the town's professional lawman.



## 25 Henry Starr

In the film *A Debtor to the Law*, real-life robber Henry Starr played himself in a re-creation of the bank robberies in Stroud, Oklahoma. That shoot-out with the town's citizens had left Starr wounded and captured while the rest of the gang escaped with the loot. Starr is shown in a never-before-published photograph at left and below in badman gear in the film.





## **26 Buckskin Frank Leslie**

Buckskin Frank Leslie shot it out with Billy Claiborne, one of the survivors of the Gunfight Behind the O.K. Corral. Just one year later, in 1882, Claiborne got in an argument with Leslie who mortally wounded Claiborne in a gunfight outside the Oriental Saloon. We don't know how Leslie met his end; he disappeared from public records in 1922. Old West photograph collector Robert G. McCubbin thinks the man in this photo looks like Leslie, but he does not have good provenance to verify it is him.



## **27** Clay Allison

During his cowhand days, Clay Allison accidentally shot himself in the foot while stampeding Army mules as a prank in 1871. The children who surround him in the below picture have no idea Allison will soon become a notorious gunfighter in New Mexico. A heavy drinker, Allison went on shooting sprees that possibly included his involvement in a mob that lynched Cruz Vega in 1875. Two days later, he killed Vega's friend at the St. James Hotel in Cimarron. Allison died violently, but not at the end of a gun—in 1887, while hauling supplies to his ranch, he was thrown from his wagon and run over by its rear wheel.

— TRUE WEST ARCHIVES —





## **28** Rowdy Joe Lowe

Shown in this never-before-published photograph, Rowdy Joe Lowe appears at far left (and in inset below). He's most known for his 1873 gunfight with saloon owner Red Beard in Delano, Kansas. Beard antagonized his next-door competitor, Lowe, by first firing at Lowe's saloon and then attempting to kill him. Despite his wife attempting to dissuade him, Lowe ultimately got his man. He was found not guilty of killing Beard. He moved to Denver, Colorado, and started a family; he, too, was gunned down in a saloon, in 1899.

- COURTESY JERRY ADAMS COLLECTION -

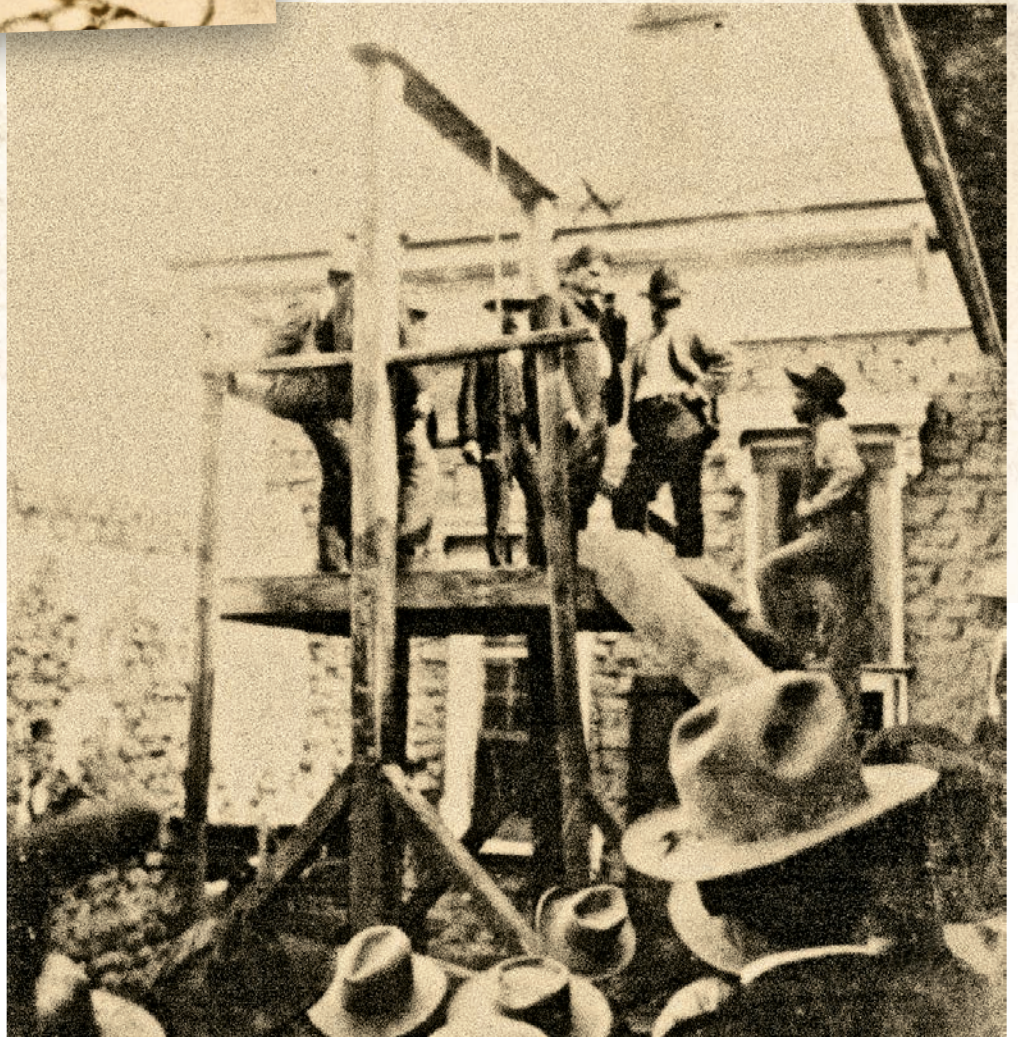




## **29** Augustine Chacon

A Mexican outlaw and folk hero in Arizona Territory, Augustine Chacon, was most known for a gunfight that took place after he and his gang robbed a store in Morenci, Arizona, in 1895. Chacon's buddies were killed, but the posse captured him and took him to the jail in Clifton (above right). During the shoot-out, Chacon had killed posse member Pablo Salcido. Chacon was sentenced to hang for that murder in 1896, but he escaped jail the next year. In 1902, Arizona Ranger Capt. Burt Mossman set a trap by convincing outlaw Burt Alvord to help him capture Chacon. Chacon's hanging on November 14 was a big occasion; a 14-foot adobe wall was built around the scaffold so that only those with invitations could view the execution. While walking up the steps of the scaffold (shown here), he shook the hands of admirers who would soon watch him drop to his death.

- COURTESY TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -



### 30 Bill Longley

A quick-tempered murderer, Bill Longley got his start killing a former slave in Texas in 1868. His kills included his boyhood friend Wilson Anderson and a hunting buddy George Thomas, both in 1875, and fellow outlaw Lou Shroyer and Longley's landlord, both in 1876. The dangerous gunfighter paid the ultimate price at the end of a noose in 1878.



W P Longley Oct 1878



### **31** Dallas Stoudenmire

Dallas Stoudenmire, shown here as marshal in El Paso, Texas, in this never-before-published photograph. He was an imposing force, standing six feet, four inches. An April 14, 1881, gun battle—styled as “Four Dead in Five Seconds”—entered him into a feud with the Manning brothers. He resigned as city marshal in 1882 and became a deputy U.S. marshal in July, only to be killed by James and Doc Manning on September 18.



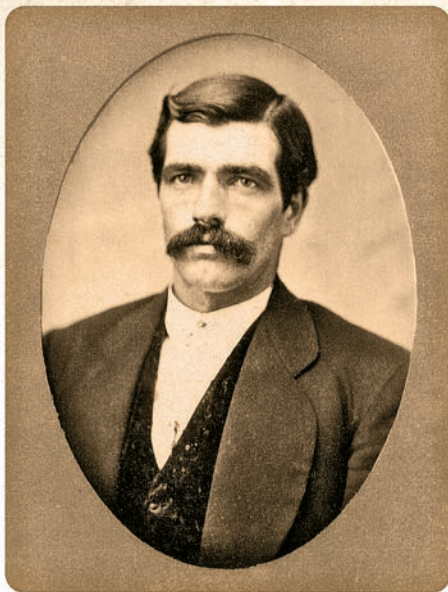
### **32** King Fisher

This Texas gunslinger was a known troublemaker who also used his gun talents on the side of the law, as well, in 1883 when, as acting sheriff of Uvalde County, he killed a stagecoach robbery suspect. The next year, while hanging out with his gunfighter friend Ben Thompson, Fisher got caught in the crossfire between Thompson and those feuding with him over his killing of a popular theatre owner in San Antonio.



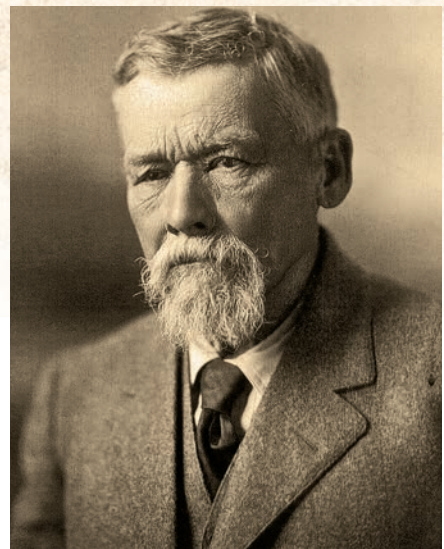
### **33** Johnny Ringo

This photo, copied from an original owned by the family, was tipped in a book written by John Ringo's mother, *The Journal of Mrs. Mary Ringo*, and owned by Mary's grandson. It is much clearer and sharper than any other that has surfaced (as Texas historian Chuck Parsons puts it: "You can count the whiskers in his moustache"). Ringo is more famously known for challenging Wyatt Earp and his cronies to gun battles, but the authorities broke it up before Ringo could show his mettle. By July 1882, Ringo was dead, apparently by his own hand, although some believe he was murdered by his enemies.



### **34** Tom "Bear River" Smith

Tom Smith earned his "Bear River" nickname after he made a stand as a lawman during a shoot-out with Wyoming vigilantes. While working as a marshal in Abilene, Kansas, he tried to make the cowtown a no-gun zone, but a gunfight that erupted in 1870 while he served a warrant on two farmers cost him his life...and his head. Farmer Moses Miles hit Smith with his rifle and then took an axe and decapitated him.



### **35** Texas John Slaughter

Born in 1841, John Horton Slaughter fearlessly fought in skirmishes against all kinds of enemies—Comanches, while working as a Texas Ranger; Union soldiers, as a trooper; and wicked outlaws, as sheriff of Cochise County in Arizona. He lived to the ripe age of 80.



### **36 Cherokee Bill**

Crawford Goldsby, an outlaw better known as Cherokee Bill and one of the most dangerous men terrorizing Indian Territory, shot anyone who got in his way. He even killed his own brother-in-law, Mose Brown, over an argument about hogs. Interestingly, another gunfighter and prisoner at the time, Henry Starr, unarmed Goldsby when he shot a guard while attempting to break out of jail in 1895. He hanged for the murder of Ernest Melton the next year.



### **37 John Selman**

April 5 was an eventful date in the gunfighting career of John Selman, the man most known for shooting down deadly killer John Wesley Hardin in 1895. On that day in 1894, Selman killed a former Texas Ranger named Bass Outlaw. On April 5, 1896, Selman got into a dispute with Deputy U.S. Marshal George Scarborough in El Paso, Texas, went into an alley to shoot it out...and lost. The lawman was 56 when he died.

- COURTESY LEON METZ COLLECTION -



### **38** Tom Horn

Western lore records Tom Horn as a gunfighter, and he did wield a gun during Arizona's Pleasant Valley War in 1887, but he was more accurately a hired gunman who usually shot his victims from ambush. He's shown here, in the jail in Cheyenne, Wyoming, before his 1903 execution for the murder of 14-year-old Willie Nickell.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -

TRUE WEST  
EXCLUSIVECLASSIC  
GUNFIGHTSDALTON  
DEBACLEDALTON GANG  
VS  
THE TOWN OF  
COFFEYVILLETWO BANKS ARE  
TARGET OF RAID

DOOM IN DEATH ALLEY



Coffeyville citizens arm themselves at local businesses and mount a tenacious defense of their Kansas town.

— ALL ILLUSTRATIONS BY BOB BOZE BELL —

BY BOB BOZE BELL

Maps & Graphics by Gus Walker

Based on the research of Lue Diver Barndollor & Robert Barr Smith

This Classic Classic Gunfights first appeared in our February/March 2003 issue

**F**ive mounted men ride into Coffeyville, Kansas, from the west. It is around 9:30 a.m., and the streets are already filled with farmers and businesspeople.

The riders hitch their horses in an alley and proceed on foot toward the plaza (see Phase One map, opposite page). Grate Dalton, Bill Power (also styled Powers) and Dick Broadwell cross the plaza, and the trio quickly enter the C.M. Condon & Company Bank. Bob and Emmett Dalton, who are walking behind, stride past the Condon, cross Union Street and enter the First National Bank.

In spite of the strangers' fake beard disguises, several locals recognize the outlaws. (The Daltons once lived in Coffeyville and are well known.) Iceman Cyrus Lee runs into Isham's hardware store, shouting, "The Daltons are robbing the bank!"

At first, patrons and workers in the store laugh at the absurdity of the report. Others take the battle cry more seriously. As Lee and his fellow townsmen spread the alarm, citizens quickly arm themselves at two hardware stores and other businesses.

Meanwhile, Grate is demanding that all the money in the Condon safe be put in a two-bushel wheat sack.

"The safe is on a time lock. It won't open until 9:30," cashier Charles Ball says to Grate.

Grate asks what time it is. The cashier looks at his pocket watch and says, "9:20." Even though a wall clock shows the time as 9:40, Grate accepts the cashier's word, saying, "We can wait."

Two more customers walk in and become hostages.

After hearing the shouting robbers, Luther Perkins, owner of the Condon bank building, comes downstairs brandishing two pistols. When he opens the northwest door and meets Broadwell's Winchester, Perkins slams the door and quickly backpedals upstairs.

The Condon robbers are now jumpy and impatient, as well

they should be. Inside the vault sits \$40,000, and the time lock story is a lie—it has been off since 8 a.m.

From 80 yards down the street, a store owner opens fire, pumping bullets into the Condon bank. The first shot pierces the plate glass window and hits Power. "I'm shot. I can't use my arm!" cries the robber, as he clutches his left arm.

Broadwell warns the bank employees to get under the counter, "or else you will get killed by some of these people."

Other guns on the plaza cut loose until the plinking and whizzing of airborne missiles become "a shower and then a storm." Bullets smash into the bank lobby from several directions, sending glass and patrons flying.

Across the street, in the First National Bank, Bob and Emmett also encounter a crowd. In addition to the three bank employees already at the bank, three customers plus two more blunder in after the robbery has begun. In spite of some plucky resistance by the teller, who claims he doesn't know the combination to the safe, Bob ferrets out the hidden cash. Emmett scoops \$20,000 into a burlap bag.

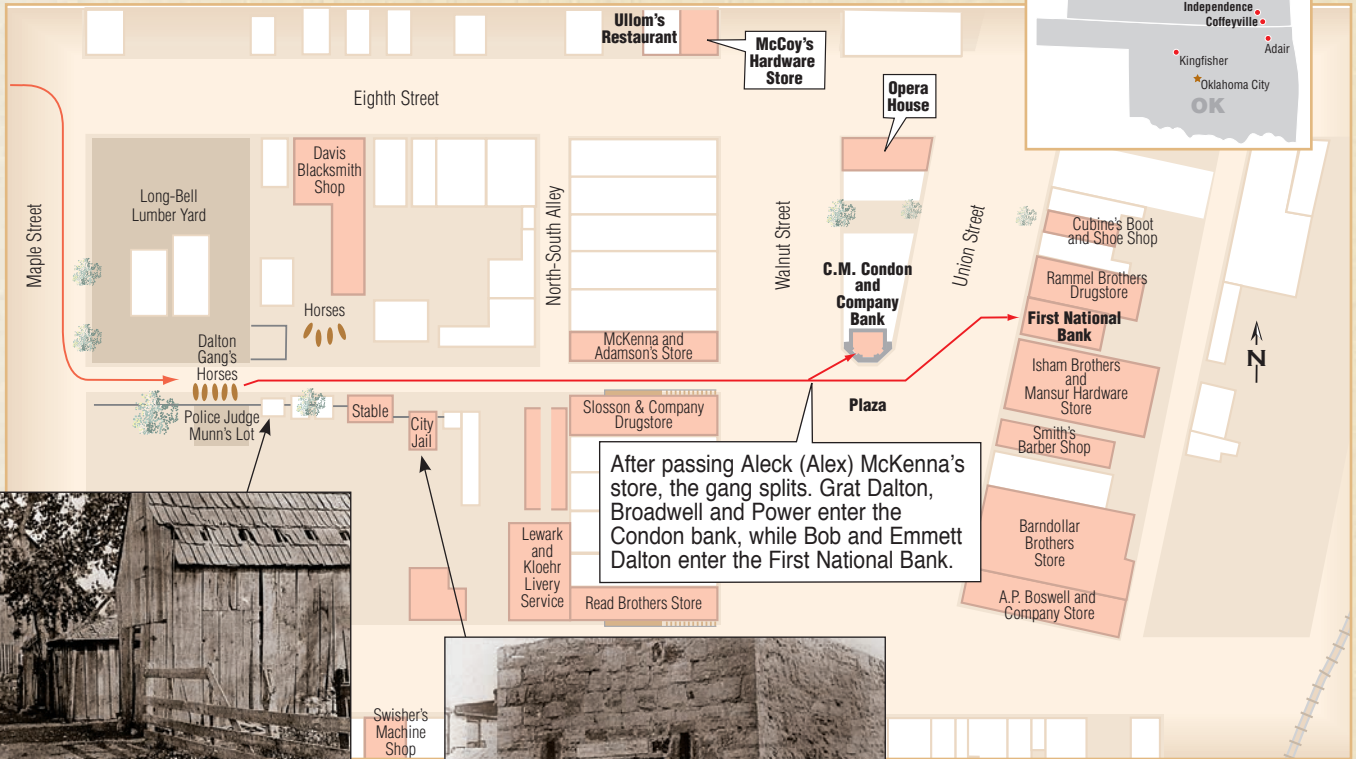
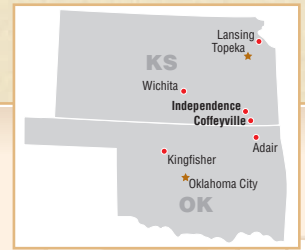
The two prepare to leave, driving the bank employees and customers in front of them. As the outlaws herd their hostages out the front door, two citizens on the sidewalk fire at the bandits from point-blank range,



The Daltons wear fake whiskers to disguise their identities. Bill Power and Dick Broadwell are unknown in the area and do nothing to hide their features, although one report has them pulling bandannas up over their noses.

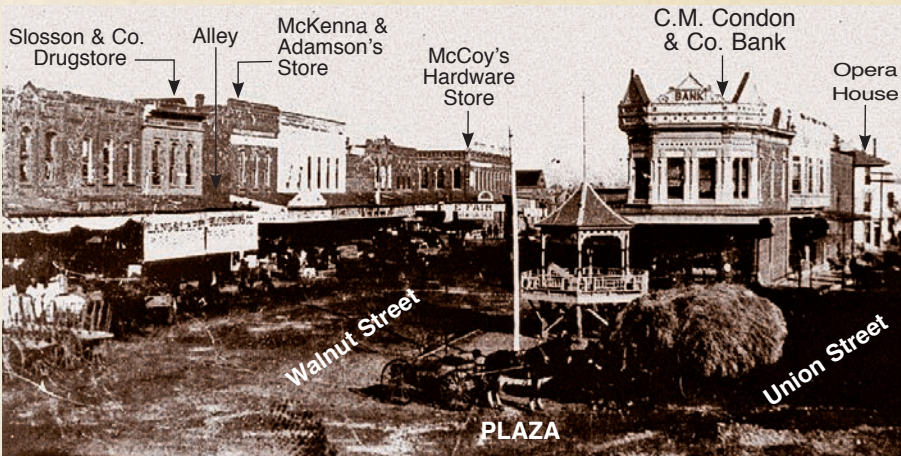
# Phase One

The gang members intend to tie their horses at McCoy's hardware store or at the opera house, but they find the street torn up and the hitching posts removed. Instead, they ride south on Maple and enter a narrow alley where they dismount and tie their horses to a fence.



Alley fence (above), where the Dalton Gang ties its horses.

Jail (right), on the south side of the alley.



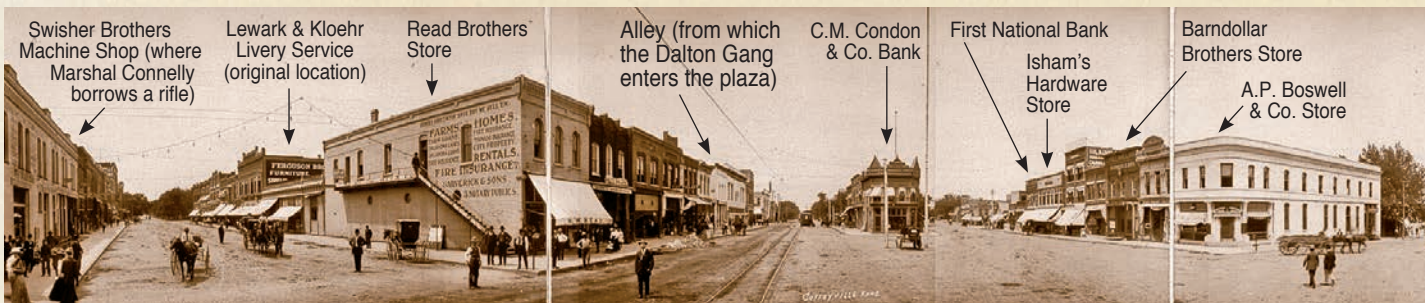
Walnut Street and the Plaza block, circa 1895. The buildings are identified as they appeared in October 1892.

— ALL PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE COURTESY COFFEYVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY —

## 39-40 Dumb and Dumber



Bob (at left) and Grat are the leaders of the raid, and they make at least two fatal mistakes. Grat, 31, is the oldest, but he proves to be a poor leader. His slow-witted actions in the Condon bank lead to a major debacle. As to the choice of where to tie the horses (see alley fence, above left), Emmett later admits, "There was no worse place in Coffeyville than the place Bob picked."



but they miss. One bullet nearly hits cashier Tom Ayers, but he and most of the hostages escape. (Some think these are the first shots fired in the fight.)

The two Daltons scramble back inside the First National Bank and give up on going out the front. (According to some accounts, Bob shoots out the front door at this point and hits locals Charley Gump and T. Arthur Reynolds.) Herding bank teller W.H. Shepard before them, Bob and Emmett head for the back door.

Lucius Baldwin, a 23-year-old clerk, snatches a pistol from Isham's hardware store and dashes out the back door, hoping to gain an advantage on the robbers. At the rear of the First National Bank, Baldwin meets the two Daltons, who are coming out the back door with Shepard in front of them. Perhaps confused by their identity (which makes him the only person in Coffeyville who is), the clerk ignores Bob's order to halt. Bob raises his Winchester and reportedly says as he fires, "I have got to get that man."

Baldwin falls with a fatal bullet just below his heart. Other citizens in the alley scramble for cover as the two Daltons abandon Shepard and run north looking for a place to cut across the plaza to their horses.

Stopping near the corner of Eighth and Union (see Phase Two map, opposite page), Bob peers south and sees two ambushers crouching beside the First National Bank's front entrance, waiting for another shot. Bob raises his Winchester and fires, felling George Cubine and Charles Brown. Cashier Ayers, who has grabbed a rifle at Isham's, kneels behind a harness to take a bead on the outlaws. Bob spies him and shoots first, hitting Ayers just below the left eye from 70 yards away. (Witnesses later claim Ayers's head squirted blood like a fountain.)

Gump, one of the first locals to spread the alarm, is struck in the hand by a bullet, which also shatters the stock of his shotgun. Another defender in front of Isham's is also hit by a ricochet and must be carried inside to safety. (It is unclear who shoots these two, although Bob, Power and Broadwell are each credited in subsequent conflicting accounts.)

Dazed and bewildered, Grat and his crew grab what money they can find (Grat stuffs \$1,100 of currency in his vest) and exit the Condon "with heads down, like facing a strong wind." As they run for their lives, a murderous swarm of bullets follows them into what will from this day forward be known as Death Alley.

Grat and Power are hit almost immediately, but they keep their feet and run. Power tries ducking into a doorway, but the door is locked. He continues running with a slug in his back. Grat scoots behind an oil wagon parked in the alley and shoots at Isham's through a stairwell.

As they run  
for their lives,  
a murderous  
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from this day  
forward be  
known as  
Death Alley.

Marshal Charles Connelly crosses a vacant lot on Ninth Street, while townsmen John Kloehr and Carey Seaman cut through Kloehr's stable. Hoping to intercept the robbers, the marshal, carrying a borrowed rifle, bursts through a gap in the fence on the south side of the alley and looks west for the fugitives. Unfortunately, Grat is behind him at the staircase and levels his Model 1886 Winchester from 20 feet away. Grat's blast hits Connelly in the back and kills him.

As Grat makes another run for his horse, Kloehr and Seaman peer into the alley. When Grat turns to monitor his backtrail, Kloehr fires, hitting the outlaw in the throat. The slug breaks Grat's neck, and he falls in a heap.

Struck from a bullet by Joe Uncapher's rifle, Broadwell makes it safely to the Long-Bell Lumber Yard and finds temporary cover. He shoots and kills the horses hitched to the oil

tanker, so he can fire unobstructed at his tormenters. During a pause in the shooting, Broadwell secures his horse, but before he can clear the alley, Seaman and Kloehr catch him in their gun sights. The bandit reels in the saddle as buckshot and a rifle slug tear into his body. Broadwell hangs onto his saddle horn and makes it down the alley, disappearing around a corner.

Incredibly, Bob and Emmett have so far escaped being hit. "Now let's get to the horses," Bob tells Emmett, "the rest ought to be through by this time."

As the last two bandits dash for their horses, Bob glances up at the high windows along the alley and takes a bullet in the chest. He stumbles across the alley and sits down hard atop a pile of cobblestones stacked beside the jail. Still game, Bob fires several more times, but he hits no one. Rising painfully to his feet, Bob staggers to the corner of the stable, sees Kloehr and fires twice, missing both times. Kloehr waits for a clear shot, takes aim and hits the outlaw leader in the chest, sending him sprawling into the alley. (Henry Isham later claims he nails Bob in this exchange.)

Still carrying the money, Emmett is hit in the torso, another bullet breaks his arm and yet a third slug hits his cartridge belt.

Two of the outlaws' horses (Bob's and Power's) have been killed in the lead hailstorm, but Emmett's mount is still standing. Emmett swings onto his saddle and is immediately hit several more times by rifle fire—in the left hip and groin. Everyone expects him to go down, but instead of falling or spurring his horse toward freedom, he reins his mount directly into the teeth of the shooting. Riding straight to his brother, Emmett leans down to give Bob a hand up.

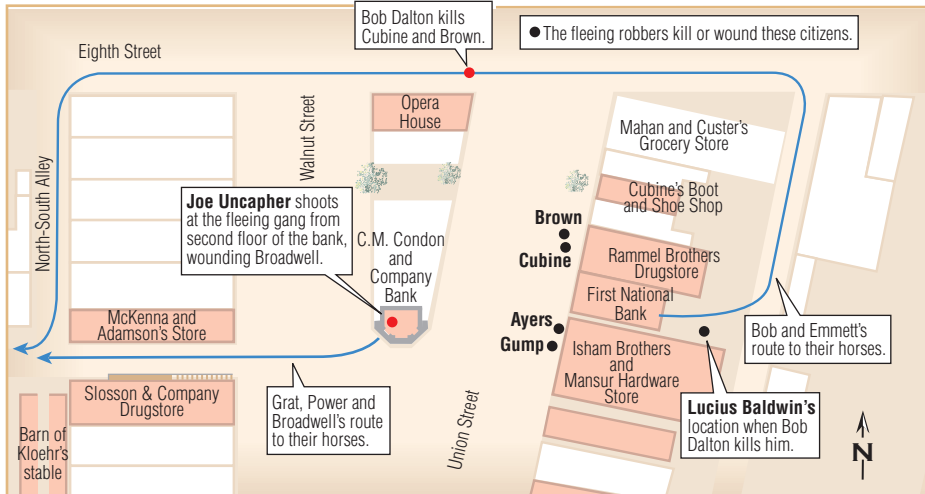
Dying, Bob whispers, "It's no use." (Later, Emmett adds that his brother also said these perhaps wishful words: "Goodbye, Emmett. Don't surrender; die game.")

Seaman steps clear and aims both barrels of his shotgun at Emmett's back and fires. The last Dalton hits the floor of Death Alley face first.



## Phase Two

After the shooting starts, the gang's plan begins to go south. Here's what happens:



## Aftermath: Odds & Ends

Dick Broadwell made it to the outskirts of town, swaying and gasping in the saddle with a dozen wounds. A posse of townsmen found him crumpled in death between puddles of his own blood. His horse stood quietly beside him.

Cashier Tom Ayers survived. Bob Dalton's bullet had hit Ayers just under the left eye and exited at the base of his skull. A quick-thinking bystander, George Picker, pressed his thumb over the wound to stem the fountain of blood. Ayers later becomes the mayor of Coffeyville, Kansas.

A local newspaper reported, "Not over fifteen guns were actively engaged in the fight on both sides and the engagement lasted about ten minutes." As the townspeople examined the outlaws, they discovered that none of the bandits' numerous revolvers had been fired. Unlike gunfights in the movies, this had been almost exclusively a rifle and shotgun contest.

The money from the banks was recovered. The next day, the Condon bank reported a loss of \$20, while the First National reported a surplus of \$1.98.

Within 24 hours, 2,000 sightseers descended on Coffeyville, taking pieces of clothing and other personal items from the outlaws' bodies.

**Recommended:** *Daltons! The Raid on Coffeyville Kansas* by Robert Barr Smith, published by University of Oklahoma Press, and *What Really Happened on October 5, 1892* by Lue Barndollar, published by Coffeyville Historical Society.



### 41 Dead Daltons

Once Broadwell's body was brought in from the edge of town, the dead bandits were all rounded up and a hay rack from a wagon was put on the ground, with hay underneath to prop it up. The bodies were placed on the rack, leaning against a stable wall next to the jail. (From left) Bill Power, Bob Dalton, Grat Dalton and Dick Broadwell.

- ALL PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -

### 42 Emmett Dalton

As the years went by, Emmett became a celebrity. Wearing a black hat, Emmett poses between the legendary lawman Charlie Siringo (holding rifle) and showman Pawnee Bill. The man at the far right is unidentified.

The photo was taken in Altadena, California, 1927.



BY TOM AUGHERTON

# Outlaw Joel Fowler

FRONTIER NECKTIE PARTY ENDS OUTLAW'S BLOODY TRAIL.



**ON** a cold January night in 1884, Joel A. Fowler sat helpless in jail. The citizens of Socorro, New Mexico, gathered outside, eager to lynch the greatly feared killer inside. Joel must have known his unmerciful end was just moments away—at the end of a long rope.

Joel was born in Mississippi in 1846. At a young age, he moved with his uncle Archibald Young “A.Y.” Fowler to Fort Worth, Texas, where he would learn the law under the older Fowler’s supervision.

Joel’s uncle was a violent man with a short fuse. A long-simmering dispute over the results of an 1856 county election left Archibald with a hatred for future Tarrant County Sheriff John B. York. Five years later, on August 24, 1861, the stage was set for young Fowler’s baptism into violence.

Archibald met Sheriff York accidentally on the Fort Worth city square, and the attorney attacked the lawman with his

knife. Severely slashed, York shot and killed Archibald. Running to his uncle’s aid, 15-year-old Joel pulled a double-barreled shotgun and immediately killed York. Joel had just killed his first man. It would not be his last.

After 18 years of killing and lawlessness in Texas, Joel fled to Las Vegas, New Mexico, and opened a dance hall. His legendary bad behavior in Las Vegas was limited

to regular drunken street-shooting displays. Six months later, he moved his illicit operations to the Texas Saloon and Dance Hall in Santa Fe. His violent, alcoholic outbursts escalated in the territorial capital.

With his welcome worn out in Santa Fe, Joel moved to White Oaks, a new town in lawless Lincoln County, where he started another saloon. Flush with cash, he bought a ranch in the Gallinas Mountains. He was soon feared as a ruthless con, cutthroat rustler and cold-blooded killer—including

He was soon  
feared as a ruthless  
con, cutthroat  
rustler and cold-  
blooded killer

In 1883, Socorro, New Mexico, was a crossroads of frontier violence, where Joel A. Fowler would meet his end on the hanging tree, a year later, courtesy of a local mob.

— ALL PHOTOS TRUE WEST ARCHIVES —

his double-cross murder of outlaw (and rustling partner) Whiskey Jim Greathouse.

With the law on his trail, he sold his ranch and went to Socorro for a drunken, shooting spree. On November 6, 1883, Joel joined J.E. Cale for a drink at the hotel bar. Joel set his pistols down on the bar, which the barkeep immediately confiscated. Realizing Cale had tricked him, Joel’s rage boiled over, and he stabbed the innocent man in the heart. Cale, who gave an affidavit before he died the next day, did not die in vain.

Jailed and indicted in the killing of Cale, Joel was found guilty in December 1883. When Joel had his attorneys—including Santa Fe Ring leader Thomas B. Catron—appeal his case, the local vigilance group, the “Socorro Stranglers,” took justice into their own hands.

On January 23, 1884, sometime after midnight, citizens hanged Joel from a nearby tree, denying his request to be shot instead. He called out for “Heaven’s angels” as he was lurched into position and one of the witnesses reportedly responded, “It’s a cold night for angels, Joel. Better call on someone nearer town.”



Tom Augherton is an Arizona-based freelance writer. Do you know about an unsung character of the Old West whose story we should share here? Send the details to [editor@twmag.com](mailto:editor@twmag.com), and be sure to include high-resolution historical photos.



### **43** Joel A. Fowler

After frontier fiend Joel A. Fowler, alleged killer of more than 20 men, was hanged by a Socorro mob in January 1884, a White Oaks, New Mexico, newspaper headline declared, "More Room in Hell than Socorro for Fowler."

BY CANDY MOULTON

# Gems Along the Continental Divide

## Rocky Mountain Mining Camps.



In 1900, Cripple Creek boasted over 10,000 residents who came to Colorado to find their bonanza in over 150 mines of mineral-rich Battle Mountain since the first gold was discovered in 1890.

— BY WILLIAM HENRY JACKSON/ COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —

**T**he backbone of the continent—the Continental Divide—is rocky and rugged in places, and geologically diverse.

This landscape from Colorado to Montana is high country known for scenic vistas and diverse mineral resources. Beginning in the 19th century and continuing to the present, miners have harvested the bounty of nature: gold, silver, copper and sapphires are some of the riches they've taken home.

The mother lodes they found spawned fast-growing towns and rich histories, and

today you can explore the places and learn the stories of their booms, their busts and their people.

Miners pulled more than \$18 million in gold from the nearly 500 mines in the Cripple Creek district high in the Rocky Mountains just to the north of Pikes Peak in the late 19th Century. Bob Womack—some called him “Crazy Bob”—filed on the El Paso lodge mining claim on October 20, 1890. When his ore assayed at \$250 in gold per ton, the rush was underway.

During the heyday, three railroads and two electric trolley systems served the gold camp. The “Gold Belt Line” narrow-gauge Florence and Cripple Creek Railroad linked

the gold camp with Florence, Colorado, by climbing through Phantom Canyon. You can drive the route of this old railroad by taking the Phantom Canyon Road, but be forewarned, it is steep, narrow and not for anyone who dislikes heights, one-lane roads with two-way traffic or blind corners. For adventurers, however, it is an awesome drive.

Gold mining continues in the region by the Cripple Creek and Victor Gold Mining Company. The Cripple Creek Heritage Center has mining history displays, and opportunities for a guided tour of a modern working mine, as well as a visit to the historic Mollie Kathleen Mine.

# Miners pulled more than \$18 million in gold from the nearly 500 mines in the Cripple Creek district high in the Rocky Mountains.



St. Peter's Dome rises behind the scenic and engineering wonder of the Colorado Springs and Cripple Creek District Railway, which began passenger and freight service in April 1901.

— BY WILLIAM HENRY JACKSON/  
COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —

Nearby Victor also has a rich mining heritage. Learn more at the Victor Lowell Thomas Museum. Gold Rush Days are held in mid-July with mining games, gold panning, a parade and other activities.

From Cripple Creek and Victor head north through Buena Vista to Leadville, location of one of the richest historic silver districts in the country, and home of the National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum, a showcase of American mining. Outstanding examples of ores and precious rocks and minerals are on display along with artifacts, historic photographs and exhibits including a replica underground hard rock mine and a prospector's cave. The museum also has a collection of mining tools such as hammers and drills that show how mining technology changed through the years.

As you travel north from Leadville through Silverthorne and Walden, you are on a route speculators and miners took when they fled Cripple Creek to the next big strike: the discovery of copper in what became the Grand Encampment Mining District.

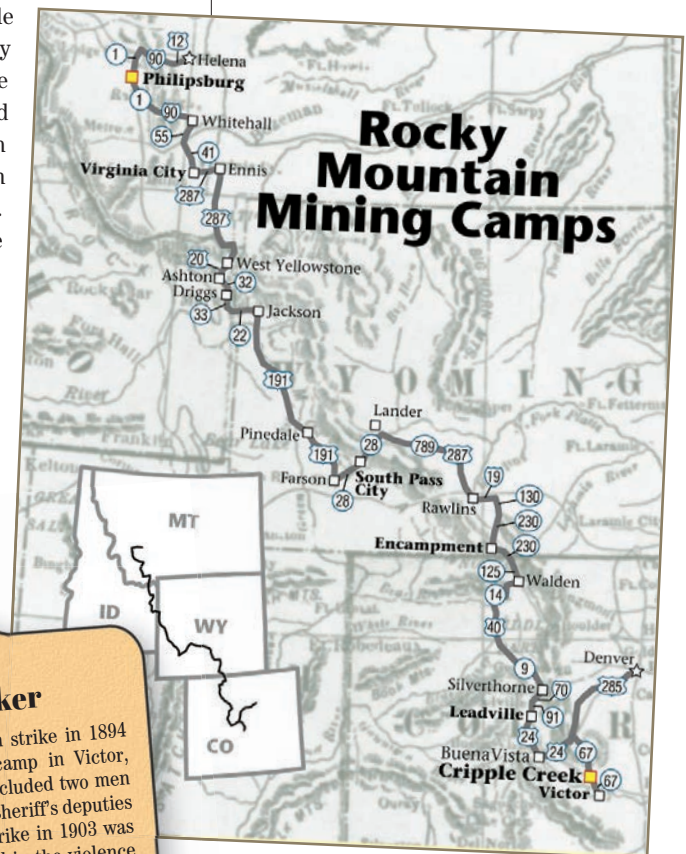
## Grand Encampment Mining District

Edward Haggarty herded sheep but his primary interest in the Sierra Madre mountain range was the search for minerals, and on a spring day in 1896 he found the mother lode—a copper deposit that would be developed as the Rudefeha Mine (named for the men who backed his mining work—Rumsey, Deal, Ferris and Haggarty). In May 1897, the word was out and men who had rushed north from Cripple Creek staked the Wyoming town of Grand Encampment at the foot of the mountains. Miners and boomers came quickly, many of them like Milt Englehart and Edward Parkison from Cripple Creek, Colorado. They opened stores to serve the mining industry and brought newspaperman Grant Jones up from Cripple Creek as well. He would take over the promotion of the area, quickly getting articles placed in newspapers from Philadelphia to Denver.

Jones would ultimately open his own paper, the *Dillon Doublejack*, published

in the town that grew closest to the mine. In addition to the Rudefeha Mine (which later became the Ferris-Haggarty), other copper mines were quickly developed and spawned such Wyoming towns as Battle, Copperton, Elwood and Rambler.

From 1897 until 1908 Grand Encampment was the hub of the copper district. Stagecoach service provided a link to the Union Pacific Railroad at Walcott Junction, 40 miles to the north. Freighters like Gee String Jack Fulkerson hauled goods to the mines and mining camps, and returned to the North American Copper Company smelter with loads of copper ore. But that transportation was difficult—both costly and dangerous. So the company



### Historical Marker

Gold miners organized a union strike in 1894 that forever changed the gold camp in Victor, Colorado. Before the walkout concluded two men had died in a gun battle between sheriff's deputies and striking miners. A second strike in 1903 was even more deadly as 15 men died in the violence and the Colorado National Guard responded when Gov. James Peabody declared martial law. You can find the Labor Wars marker in Victor at the intersection of Victor Avenue and S. 4th Street.



Miners position heavy timbers inside the Osceola tunnel of the Ferris-Haggarty Mine in the Grand Encampment Mining District of southern Wyoming.

— BY J.E. STIMSON/WYOMING DIVISION OF STATE PARKS AND CULTURAL RESOURCES —

hired the Riblet Tramway Company from the Pacific Northwest to build a 16-mile-long aerial tramway that could transport the ore from the Ferris-Haggarty to the smelter that had been constructed along the Grand Encampment River near the town. This engineering marvel was the longest

aerial tramway in the world at the time. It operated from June 1903 until August 1908 when the last of three fires rendered the smelter inoperable.

The copper boom went bust shortly thereafter, but the Grand Encampment Museum has one of the original tramway

towers, plus three replica towers that have original cable and ore buckets. Also on the grounds at the museum are original buildings from the town of Battle, homestead and stagecoach cabins, a one-room school and a two-story outhouse.

### South Pass City – Birthplace of Woman Suffrage in the West

An even earlier mining boom occurred farther north in Wyoming in 1868 with the discovery of gold and the beginning of South Pass City, which is now a Wyoming State Historic Site located in central Wyoming just below the famous pass that hundreds of thousands of overland emigrants crossed. The remnants of the town line the single street, which is one of the best-preserved 19th century mining towns in the West.

Buildings that served the miners are restored, as is the Carissa gold mine,

**FOR SOME,  
STAR COUNT WILL ALWAYS BE  
MORE IMPORTANT THAN  
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WYOMING  
*KEEP IT TO YOURSELF*

A large cabin near the Duncan Mine in South Pass City is a historic reminder of Wyoming's gold rush town which was founded in 1868, and today is an official Wyoming Historic Site.

— BY JACK E. BOUCHER/ COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —

which was the primary operation in the South Pass District. Although the gold rush lasted just a short time, the Carissa was operated well into the 20th century when underground mining took place. A new millhouse constructed in 1929 and upgrades after WWII kept the mine in operation on a periodic basis until it closed permanently in 1954.

With the restoration work at the Carissa, it is now open again for tours (Thursday to Sunday during the summer). The 1.6 mile Flood & Hindle Mining Trail that follows Willow Creek from South Pass City has been developed with interpretive signs, and replica equipment from the mining era when



mills were used to crush the gold-bearing ore. Other operations included sawmills where workers shaped mine timbers.

South Pass City is known too, for the role its citizens played in bringing equal suffrage. Esther Hobart Morris lived in the mining town and urged territorial lawmakers to sponsor the legislation that gave Wyoming women the right to vote—the first territory in the nation to

approve such an act. Morris became the first female justice of the peace in the United States in 1870, taking over the position after James Stillman resigned in protest of the law that gave women the right to vote!

### Montana's Mining Roots

The issue of equality for women will be presented by the historian re-enactors at

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at  
**Point of Rocks**

**Doug Hocking**

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MAGAZINE

### Cripple Creek District Museum

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719-689-9540

[CrippleCreekMuseum.com](http://CrippleCreekMuseum.com)

The mountains of the Sawatch Range rise above the Arkansas River Valley west of mineral-rich Leadville, Colorado, in 1912.

- COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS -



Nevada City, Montana, in August, one of many summer events that bring history to life in the historic site located in southwest Montana. While the buildings of Nevada City have been brought in from all over Montana, the original structures in use down the road a mile in Virginia City are in their original location. These two mining towns take you back to the days of the gold rush in Alder Gulch, one of the earliest booms in what became Montana Territory.

Born during the Civil War, this was a town divided with Unionists and Southern sympathizers each supporting their side in the war. Set aside all differences when you attend the Virginia City Grand Victorian Balls, where women in 1860s style gowns and their

dashing male escorts take to the dance floor as they swirl through the steps of the old dances. If you want to participate, you'll need appropriate duds (they are available at Rank's Mercantile in Virginia City), and you can take a dance lesson the afternoon of the ball. Then participate in the grand promenade through town before you dance throughout the evening and share a midnight supper.

Montana is dotted with the ghost towns of the gold mining era, from Bannack, the first territorial capital, which is now a Montana State Park (there was damage to many of the historic structures in Bannack in the summer of 2013 due to a rain and hail storm) to Granite, an 1890s silver boomtown that is now Granite Ghost Town State Park.



The ball gowns of Virginia City women cause a kaleidoscope of color during the 1865 Ball re-created each year in the Montana gold town. This year Grand Victorian Ball will be held in June and August.

- BY CANDY MOULTON -



The first silver deposits were uncovered in the Granite area in 1865 with the Granite mine developed in 1872. It led to a bustling community that included a hospital, church, many homes and businesses, and the Miner's Union Hall. The boom that caused Granite to grow went bust in the silver panic of 1893. Although mining would resume the town of Granite never again reached its peak population of 3,000 miners, and ultimately was completely abandoned. If you visit, you can still see remnants of this once vibrant town.

Today you can do some mining of your own not far from Granite Ghost Town in Philipsburg, called P-Burg by the locals. The gemstone you'll find here, most likely, is a Montana sapphire and you

can seek your own at the Gem Mountain Sapphire Mine, or do your "mining" in the comfort of the Gem Mountain Sapphire Gallery in Philipsburg (you buy a bag of dirt and then sift and wash it to uncover the gem-quality sapphires).

Some folks come and sit most of a day walking away with several stones. I was there just long enough to "mine" a single bag of dirt that resulted in six small sapphires that I later had heat treated so I can make them into pieces of jewelry. If all that "mining" makes you hungry, step into The Sweet Shop for a piece of homemade saltwater taffy. In the evening take in the Vaudeville Variety Show in the Opera House Theater, for a return to the heyday lifestyle of the old mining camps. ❏

**Candy Moulton**, the author of *Roadside History of Colorado* and *Roadside History of Wyoming*, has danced at the Virginia City Victorian Ball, been deep in the Ocoola Tunnel of the Ferris-Haggarty Mine and panned for gold at South Pass City.



## PLACES, CELEBRATIONS & EVENTS

**Mollie Kathleen Mine**, Victor, CO; **National Mining Museum**, Leadville, CO; **Carissa Mine**, South Pass City, WY; **World Museum of Mining**, Butte, MT; **Derby Donkey Days**, Cripple Creek, CO, June 28-29; **Grand Encampment Museum** historic building tours during **Grand Encampment Cowboy Gathering**, *Grand Encampment*, WY, July 18-20; **South Pass City Gold Rush Days**, South Pass City; 1865 **Victorian Balls**, June 20-22 and August 15-17, Virginia City, MT; **Women of the Gulch-Woman Suffrage**, Nevada City, Aug. 23-24.



## GOOD EATS AND SLEEPS

**Best Grub:** The Creek, (Cripple Creek, CO); River Rock, (Walden); Hotel Wolf, (Saratoga, WY); Gannett Grill, (Lander); Miner's Grubstake, (Atlantic City); Star Bakery Restaurant, (Virginia City, MT); Silver Mill Restaurant, (Philipsburg).

**Best Lodging:** Spirit West River Lodge, (Encampment, WY); River Ridge Cabins, (Encampment) Miner's Delight Inn B&B, (Atlantic City); Just a Delight B&B, (Nevada City, MT); The Broadway Hotel, (Philipsburg).



## GOOD BOOKS & FILMS

**Nonfiction:** *Rocky Mountain Mining Camps* by Duane A. Smith; *The Saloon on the Rocky Mountain Mining Frontier* by Elliott West; *Ghost Towns of the Mountain West* by Philip Varney; *The Mining Camps Speak* by Beth and Bill Sagstetter.

**Fiction:** *Prayers for Sale* by Sandra Dallas; *The Richest Hill on Earth* by Richard S. Wheeler; *Work Song* by Ivan Doig.

**Films:** *Ghosts of the West* a documentary by E. S. Knightchilde, (Knight Sky Pictures); (PBS); *Pale Rider* (Warner Bros.); *Cripple Creek* (Columbia Pictures); *Leadville Gunslinger* (Republic Pictures).



The solid walls of the Miner's Union Hall (above) in Granite, Montana, still stand in a silent forest even though the town around them is now a ghost, one of many mining camps in the Rocky Mountains that have been abandoned. Women of the Gulch (above right) will be working for woman suffrage during a special event in Nevada City, August 23 and 24.

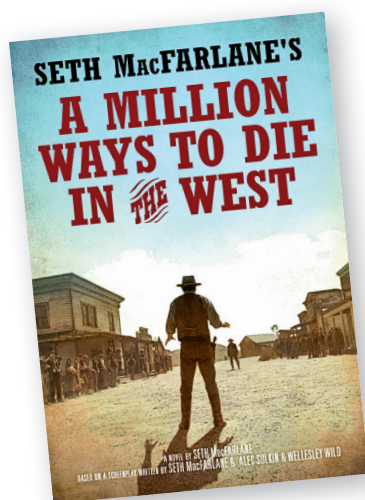


# WESTERN MOVIES

DVD & TV SERIES  
BY C. COURTNEY JOYNER

## A Million Ways to Laugh in the West

Seth MacFarlane is hoping his summer movie stands tall beside classic Comedy Westerns.



The classic-looking Western poster gives way to comedy flourishes when promoting the film's characters: (from left) Seth MacFarlane, Charlize Theron and Liam Neeson.

— ALL IMAGES COURTESY UNIVERSAL PICTURES —

**W**hen a trailer is posted on the Internet, keeping track of the views and “shares” is the perfect way for studios to judge which films will hit...or miss. *Godzilla*? No question. But another trailer has taken the web by storm; incredibly, it's a Comedy Western.

This formula was a staple in the movies, even in Buster Keaton's 1927 masterpiece *The General*, but times have changed; any type of Western is a rare thing these days. Director Seth MacFarlane's *A Million Ways to Die in the West*, out on May 30, already has film executives frothing at the mouth about its potential.

What makes parody work is letting the audience in on the joke. MacFarlane knows

this well, using the old chestnut about the coward who must challenge the toughest, meanest hombre around, all to impress a woman—he hopes.

In *A Million Ways to Die in the West*, set in 1882 Arizona, the hombre is played by Liam Neeson. MacFarlane's sheepman plans to go up against him, to save his town and win back Amanda Seyfried's gold digger character. But MacFarlane can't shoot, so Charlize Theron's gunfighter character has to teach him. Sarah Silverman plays the town's sweet shady lady, and Neil Patrick Harris plays a mustache-twirling slickster.

MacFarlane clearly understands the films that have come before, and he wants *A Million Ways to Die in the West* to stand

beside them. No easy task, considering the genre's history.

As sound came in, Westerns were a staple of every movie company. Gower Gulch quickies were eaten up by audiences who loved every clichéd story—the perfect foundation for Comedy. Filmmakers weren't shy about poking fun at the army of fearless, stalwart cowboys.

Laurel and Hardy enjoyed one of their greatest successes with 1937's *Way Out West*, with the boys getting mixed up in a fight for a gold mine. Naturally, Stan and Ollie drive the sheriff crazy, and they outwit the baddies without even realizing it.

This structure became the template: the comedians were the tenderfeet, caught in



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the middle of a feud or range war or robbery, who ultimately defeated the villains in their own crazy way, usually winning a girl in the process.

James Stewart's shy lawman stuttered more than he shot in Universal's 1939 Western *Destry Rides Again*. The authentic threat from Brian Donlevy's badman added suspense to the ending, although we knew Stewart's character would be victorious.

The beloved wastrel played by W.C. Field in 1940's *My Little Chickadee* went nose-to-nose with Mae West's

---

What about a full-on,  
R-rated parody, with  
absurd puns, dance  
numbers, hip humor,  
outrageously offensive  
dialogue and wild  
characters, in bizarre,  
almost surreal,  
situations?

---

character, creating havoc for her and the bad guys, and scoring an enormous hit. Universal longed to team Fields and West again, but he refused, "even under torture."

In 1940, Jack Benny lashed himself into the saddle for *Buck Benny Rides Again*, playing a fussy radio comedian at a dude ranch, tormented by arch-enemy Fred Allen and helpless without Rochester (Eddie Anderson). Benny loved to dismiss his movie work, but the film is terrific.

The Marx Brothers took their turn in 1940's *Go West*, helping John Carroll's cowboy reclaim his land, fight baddies and scoop up the cowgirl of his dreams. Clichéd stuff, but the

Marx madness blows the plot formula to smithereens.

Oscar-nominated William Bowers deserves all the credit for writing Abbot and Costello's best Western parody, 1947's *The Wistful Widow of Wagon Gap*. Bowers meant the story for Stewart, as a drifter who accidentally kills an outlaw in a gunfight and inherits his crazy wife and brood of kids. Universal liked it better with Abbott and Costello.

Bowers continued his Comedy Westerns with the great Bob Hope vehicle, 1959's *Alias Jesse James*. Hope plays an insurance salesman who sells a policy to Jesse James and must go west to buy back the policy. A shoot-out ending includes cameos by James Arness and Bing Crosby.

Hope did well out west, with both 1948's *The Paleface* and 1952's *Son of Paleface* among his most popular films. Always running scared, Hope, facing down with black hats or rampaging Indians, was a terrifying delight for audiences. *The Paleface* won an Academy Award for its signature song, "Buttons and Bows," while Frank Tashlin's wild sequel was notable for Roy Rogers and Trigger riding along with Hope.

Some have argued John Wayne's comic masterpiece was his Rooster Cogburn, but Wayne, who could ham it up with the best of them (see 1963's *McLintock!*), never allowed a Western to become a full-out comedy, as Kirk Douglas did in 1979's *The Villain*.

The best, most cheerfully cynical Western Comedy ever is *Cat Ballou*. In the 1965 battle-of-the-sexes Musical, Cat (Jane Fonda) clashes with an outlaw (Lee Marvin), who she takes on with the help of his drunken twin brother (Marvin). This hard-riding film is both high comedy and gloriously low-brow, thanks to Marvin's Oscar-winning performance.

Through the 1960s-70s, you got oddities such as Frank Sinatra in *Dirty Dingus Magee* or shaggy pups like Sam Peckinpah's *The Ballad of Cable Hogue*. The Westerns that found an audience were Disney's "Apple Dumpling



Tumblr feeds are churning with spoofs that tie actors to other projects, such as this parody on Neil Patrick Harris and his *How I Met Your Mother* series that ended this spring. In MacFarlane's film, Harris's character is Lady Tickler to Amanda Seyfried's Gold Digger.

Gang" series, but those were aimed at the kids.

What about a full-on, R-rated parody, with absurd puns, dance numbers, hip humor, outrageously offensive dialogue and wild characters, in bizarre, almost surreal, situations?

Enter Mel Brooks and 1974's *Blazing Saddles*. From its origin as an Andrew Bergman story to the script that Brooks wrote with the help of Richard Pryor, *Blazing Saddles* was destined to make an impact or flop without a trace. The "movie with something to offend everyone" became one of the most financially successful Westerns ever, influencing movie comedy from its release to today. The fact that it was about Black Bart? So much the better.

*A Million Ways to Die in the West* has an enormous posse behind it—comic geniuses who are putting a new spin on the Western. But the box office will determine if MacFarlane's movie can fill the giant comedic boots that have come before.



C. Courtney Joyner is a screenwriter and director with more than 25 produced movies to his credit. He is the author of *The Westerners: Interviews with Actors, Directors and Writers*.

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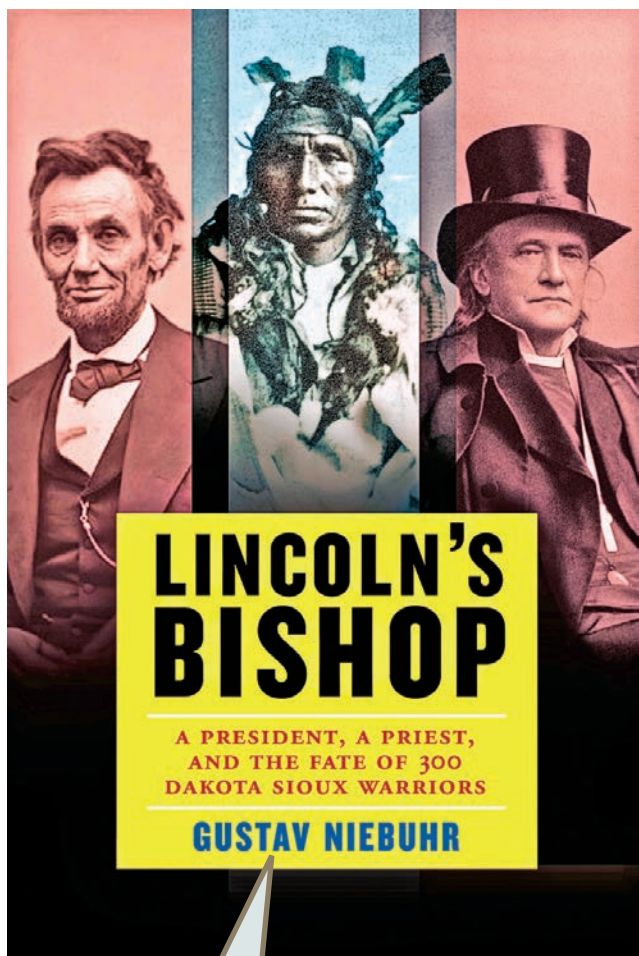
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# WESTERN BOOKS

BOOK REVIEWS EDITOR: STUART ROSEBROOK

## Crusade for Justice on Minnesota Frontier

*A Minnesota priest's moral victory for Dakota Sioux; new revelations on the First Battle of Adobe Walls, frontier photographers, Spanish explorers; and, a top notch Western debut.*



### LINCOLN'S BISHOP

A PRESIDENT, A PRIEST,  
AND THE FATE OF 300  
DAKOTA SIOUX WARRIORS

GUSTAV NIEBUHR

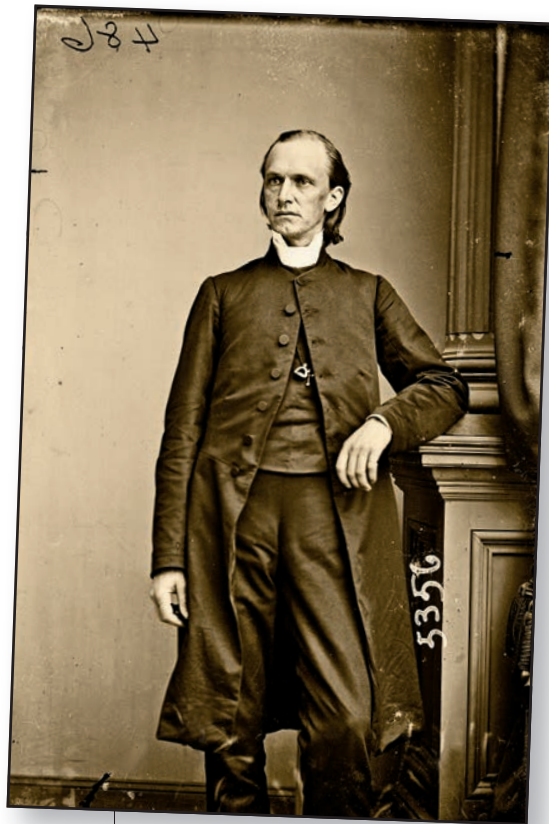
"Whipple acted as a one-man movement, seeking respect and protection for American Indians to replace the monstrous fraud and injustice to which he saw them subjected."

**I**n August 1862, President Abraham Lincoln's Army of the Potomac was being fought to a standstill by Gen. Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia when the Dakota Sioux launched a punitive war against the lightly defended Minnesota settlers, leaving hundreds dead in their rebellion. Lincoln suddenly found the Union vulnerable East and West, and the embattled commander-in-chief was in a struggle to save the nation. Gustav Niebuhr argues brilliantly in *Lincoln's Bishop: A President, a Priest, and the Fate of 300 Dakota Sioux Warriors* (HarperOne, \$26.99) that Episcopal Bishop Henry Benjamin Whipple's moral argument on behalf of the Indian rebels resonated with Lincoln's moral convictions on the abolition of slavery and steadfast defense of the U.S. Constitution to the extent it influenced his determination to emancipate the slaves on January 1, 1863.

Niebuhr, a professional journalist, professor of journalism at Syracuse University and founding director of the Carnegie Religion and Media Program, is one of the few authors during the current sesquicentennial of the Civil War to synthesize a historical topic that intellectually bridges a Western Indian war—and the religious moral crusade for equal rights for Indians—with the nation's struggle to save the Union and free the slaves.

Gustav Niebuhr's conclusions in *Lincoln's Bishop* on the efforts of Episcopal Bishop Henry Benjamin Whipple to prevent the mass lynching of more than 300 Dakota Sioux provide a clear parallel to Reverend Martin Luther King's mission to end the inhumanity of Jim Crow laws and segregation a century later.

— COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —



According to Niebuhr's book, Bishop Whipple is the enduring force behind the moral crusade on behalf of the American Indians on the Western frontier. "Whipple acted as a one-man movement, seeking respect and protection for American Indians to replace the monstrous fraud and injustice to which he saw them subjected." In *Lincoln's Bishop*, Niebuhr eloquently details Whipple's mission to seek equal justice under the law for the Indians. His pleas were as passionate as any minister leading the abolitionist movement; and, it was culminated in his greatest victory over injustice—influencing Lincoln to commute the death sentences of 265 of the 303 Dakota Sioux.

Similar to Andrew Graybill's *The Red and the White* and Elizabeth Fenn's *Encounters at the Heart of the World*, Niebuhr's *Lincoln's Bishop* is as much a 21st century morality tale as it is a recounting of a 19th century tragic conflict between whites and Indians. Niebuhr eloquently provides the historic parallel between Rev. Martin Luther King's crusade for justice and equality for blacks against ingrained, institutional prejudice in the 1950s

and 1960s, and Bishop Whipple's passionate plea for moral treatment of American Indians and their plight as similar to enslaved black Americans. Niebuhr's research and conclusions also reveal the intensity of Whipple's moral crusade and access and influence on Lincoln as equally important as King's relationship a century later on President John F. Kennedy, all of whom, but Whipple, would be martyred by an assassin's bullet.

Indeed, like Rev. King, as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act, Whipple's missionary and zealotry on behalf of the oppressed and exploited remains controversial, even in the modern Episcopal Church, which has yet to honor him as an Episcopal Saint for his life as a crusader for justice. Yet, even without the Church's formal recognition of Whipple's valiant service, his actions have not gone unnoticed. As Niebuhr so succinctly summarizes from the Talmud: "whoever saves one life, it is as if he has saved the whole world."

— Stuart Rosebrook



During the recent **Arizona History Convention** in Prescott, Arizona, a group of us were treated to keynote speaker **Paul Andrew Hutton** (who is on deadline to complete his magnum opus, *Lords of Apacheria*) and Tom Horn biographer, **Larry D. Ball**, discussing the Apache Wars, Al Sieber and Tom Horn. Fascinating insights from two great historians that I hope leads to a future collaboration.

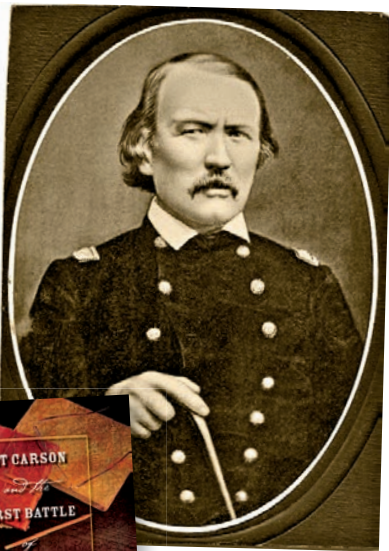
On the subject of violence: **Bob Boze Bell** and **Mark Boardman** teamed up at the convention for a lively presentation on the killing of Pat Garrett. Their conclusion: "Big Jim" Miller was paid \$1,500 to kill as part of a gangland conspiracy that would make Mario Puzo's Vito Corleone blush.

While I'm on the subject of Garrett, I am fascinated to read Sam Peckinpah biographer **Paul Seydor's** conclusions in his upcoming 2015 book on the history and making of Peckinpah's film *Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid*.

Speaking of Peckinpah and Prescott, my father, **Jeb Rosebrook**, screenwriter of Peckinpah's *Junior Bonner*, filmed in Prescott, has self-published a Western novel, *Purgatory Road: On the Road to Heaven and Hell*, (cover art by our very own Bob Boze Bell) that returns to Yavapai County in the 1950s.

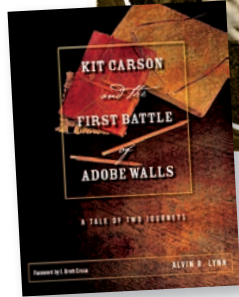
—Stuart Rosebrook





Author Alvin Lynn concludes in *Kit Carson and the First Battle of Adobe Walls* that Carson and his troops survived the infamous fate of defeat that awaited George Custer at Little Big Horn because the New Mexico force had strategically brought artillery to the Texas Panhandle outpost.

– COURTESY PANHANDLE PLAINS HISTORICAL MUSEUM, #1972/130 –

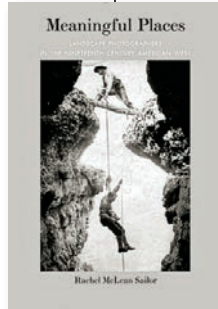


**CARSON'S CANNONS WIN THE DAY**

The First Battle of Adobe Walls, in 1864, was a sort of full-dress rehearsal for the Battle of Little Big Horn in 1876. At the former, Col. Kit Carson and a force of 400 attacked the winter camps of mostly Kiowas and Comanches and found himself facing as many as 3,000

Indians. If not for his two cannons, which fired exploding shells and spooked the Indians, his column would almost certainly have been destroyed. *Kit Carson and the First Battle of Adobe Walls: A Tale of Two Journeys* (Texas Tech University Press, \$34.95) is Alvin R. Lynn's account of the 15 years he spent meticulously tracking Carson's 200-mile expedition, uncovering more than 1,800 artifacts and correcting many historical errors. Lynn's archaeological achievement is breathtaking; among his many discoveries was the Kiowa village

Carson attacked, whose relics had rested undisturbed for 150 years.  
– Sam Gwynne, author of *Empire of the Summer Moon*



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From Daguerreotype views, through collodion, wet and dry, stereographs, to the film that I still use and cherish, Rachel McLean Sailor in *Meaningful Places: Landscape Photographers in the Nineteenth-Century American West* (University of New Mexico Press, \$45)

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TOP 10 TRUE WESTERN TOWNS OF THE YEAR 2014



In *Meaningful Places*, author Rachel McLean Sailor chronicles the lives of numerous early Western photographers, including the career of Solomon Butcher, who found success traveling in his mobile studio from homestead to homestead in Custer County, Nebraska, in the 1880s and 1890s.

- COURTESY NEBRASKA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, RG2608, PH 0 1181 -

Brothers Kolb of Grand Canyon fame is appropriately celebrated. Above all, the revealing discussion on Ansel Adams, alone, is worth the sticker price.

—Jay Dusard, photographer and author of *The North American Cowboy: A Portrait*

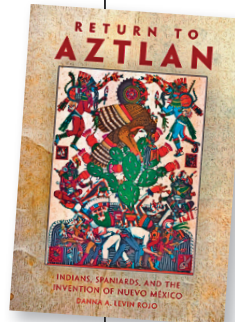
the “character of the society resulting from Spanish conquest as well as the dialogic processes shaping them” has been obscured and that, indeed, the resulting society reflected a continuance of indigenous culture as well as Spanish and that this play of cultural exchange worked in both directions. She reinterprets

early colonial documents as well as indigenous sources to arrive at her conclusions. Her work in this book resembles the work of historians Richard White and Colin Calloway regarding North American indigenous peoples and Europeans. *Return to Aztlan* makes a valuable contribution to a more nuanced, more accurate understanding of forces at play between

introduces some heretofore obscure pioneering workers in the relatively short history of photography in the American West. Thomas Easterly held forth in burgeoning St. Louis, Missouri, documenting the “removal” of the enormous mound of the prehistoric Mississippian Culture. Joel Emmons Whitney and Peter Britt concentrated on salient features in their landscapes. The vernacular imagery, at once portraiture and landscape, of Solomon Butcher in Nebraska elicits Sailor’s high praise. The derring-do of the

### LA GENTE NUEVO OF SPANISH NORTH AMERICA

Danna A. Levin Rojo’s *Return to Aztlan: Indians, Spaniards, and the Invention of Nuevo México* (University of Oklahoma Press, \$34.95) challenge the traditional interpretations of the relationship between indigenous peoples and Spanish conquerors. She asserts that



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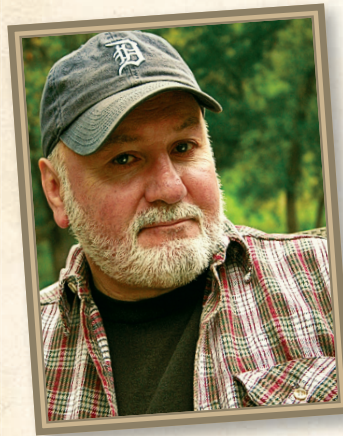
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## LOREN ESTLEMAN'S WEST REVEALED IN CLASSIC WESTERNS



**A**uthor Loren Estleman equally loves writing and discussing great authors. Estleman credits his love of reading the classics started when his mother took him to the book mobile in a converted bread truck that served their rural farm area. Stylists such as Jack London, Ernest Hemingway, Willa Cather as well as Charles Dickens, Somerset Maugham and Nicolai Gogol influenced the creative mind of young Estleman. Not that the youthful writer only read from the literary canon; he was also reading the English crime writer Edgar Wallace, Ian Fleming's James Bond series

and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes. Later, American author Elmore Leonard became both mentor and friend to the fellow Michigander, a writer whom Estleman knew as "Dutch" and says was the "best dialogue man the trade ever had."

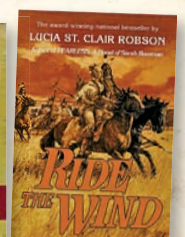
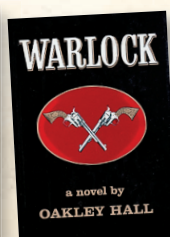
Estleman, who most recently published the 1920s Western *Ragtime Cowboys*, took time out from writing his latest Amos Walker mystery to share with us his five must-have Westerns for your library:

- ❶ *Shane* (Jack Schaefer, Houghton Mifflin): I love the beauty and clarity of his writing. He turned it into sheer poetry. Schaefer's style reminds me a lot of F. Scott Fitzgerald's *Great Gatsby*. In crystal clear prose, he tells the story from the perspective of a boy, which turns those adults into giants against the landscape. The story could not occur anywhere else, with the exception of Nicolai Gogol's *Russia*.
- ❷ *Warlock* (Oakley Hall, Bantam): A very complex retelling of the O.K. Corral story, perhaps the best on the subject, even though it never mentions the actual historical event. It's an epistolary novel, told in letters, journal entries and newspaper articles, and beautifully written.
- ❸ *The Sea of Grass* (Conrad Richter, Bantam): Published in 1936, *The Sea of Grass*, set in New Mexico, has an epic quality. He gives you the emotions by telling you what happens, rather than most authors, who show, not tell.

Like *Shane*, *The Sea of Grass's* narrative is told from perspective of a boy, realizing that if the tales aren't told, they won't be remembered.

❹ *Indian Country* (Dorothy Johnson, Ballantine): Johnson was one of the first Western authors to write about whites going off to live with the Indians. Her short stories, like "A Man Called Horse," are unsentimental; extremely realistic and raw. She was not afraid of having a main character who does not have redeemable qualities.

❺ *Ride the Wind* (Lucia St. Claire Robson, Ballantine): Epic novel of abduction, Robson based the story on the kidnapping of Cynthia Ann Parker, mother of Quanah Parker. Her writing is honest and unblinking and beyond political correction, closest we can get to real history. She captures vividly both the Comanche and white perspective, of all ages, in 19th century Texas. Robson is one of the best women writing Westerns today.



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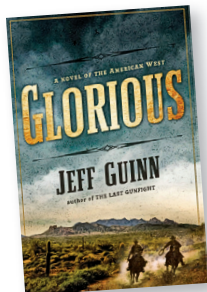
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indigenous peoples, their colonizers and the outcome.

—Patricia A. Blaine, chair of history and philosophy department at South Texas College



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Jeff Guinn's *Glorious: A Novel of the American West* (Putnam, \$26.95) is

the old story of plucky pioneers defending themselves against a ruthless rancher; but then so was *Shane*. Guinn's debut novel isn't *Shane*, but it's authentic and compelling, with vivid characters and a fine circular structure that places luckless Cash McLendon on the opposite side of his tragic past. From the rigors of stagecoach travel to the challenges of life in an Arizona mining camp, the details are riveting, and while the ending seems contrived, the author's promise that we'll see more of McLendon has this reviewer eager to see where he goes next.

—Loren Estleman, author of *Ragtime Cowboys*



In *Return to Aztlan*, author Danna A. Levin Rojo diligently details the cultural influence of the Aztec civilization on the Spanish Empire's systematic exploration, conquering and settling of Nuevo México.

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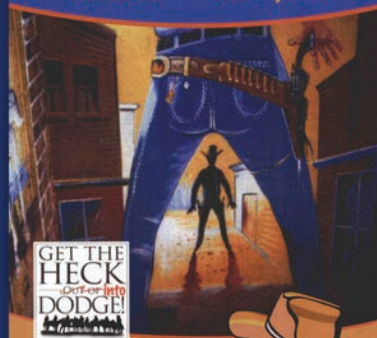


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A TWISTED BIT OF HISTORY BY JOHNNY D. BOGGS

## Finding Gold & Gunfights in Helena

REVEL IN RICH HISTORY, 150 YEARS AFTER THE GOLD STRIKE.



Prospectors who came to Helena, Montana, could be a deadly bunch. In 1867, gunfighter John Bull killed gambler-gunman Langford Peel on Helena's Main Street (shown above, circa 1879). Five years before, Bull had the upper hand in a gunfight with horse thieves in the mining camp of Gold Creek.

— COURTESY MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY RESEARCH CENTER PHOTOGRAPH ARCHIVES, HELENA, MT —

**A** century and a half later, folks in Montana are still racing for gold. Or something. That idiot in the Taurus almost ran me over on East Broadway. You live in Montana, buddy, one of the most spectacular places in the West. What's your hurry?

This is Helena, where, on July 14, 1864, the "Four Georgians" staked their last claim and hit pay dirt. "Last Chance Gulch" paid off beautifully, and Helena became the "Queen City of the Rockies," taking the territorial capital away from Virginia City in 1875.

I'm here, searching for gold. I could take the walking tour to check out the discovery site and the pioneer cabin built in 1864-65, but I'm going to hold off for

now. That Taurus has proved Helena's no place for pedestrians.

So I step inside the state Capitol to see a wonder of the West. *Lewis and Clark Meeting Indians at Ross's Hole* hangs behind the speaker of the house of representative's rostrum.

**So I step inside the state  
Capitol to see a wonder  
of the West.**

When Charles M. Russell created this 12-by-25-foot oil-canvas, he had to

remove and enlarge the ceiling in his cabin studio in Great Falls. He delivered the completed work in July 1912.

This is worth more than gold—a Russell original, complete with snowcapped Bitterroot Mountains and dozens of Flathead Indians. And a wolf, among others, which appears to be giving the speaker of the house the evil eye.

"I think it's just a coincidence," says Kirby Lambert, the Montana Historical Society's program manager. "But it is the kind of thing Russell would have done if he had thought about it."

While I tour the Capitol, another guide points out what schoolchildren consider the building's most interesting exhibit: phone booths where news reporters once hurried to dictate stories. "Children today know only cellphones," she says.

I find even more gold at the Montana Historical Society's museum. Founded in 1865, this gem houses a great collection of Russell originals, plus exhibits paying tribute to the natural world that Lewis & Clark's Corps of Discovery found, to frontier photographer F. Jay Haynes, to buffalo, I mean, bison.

Yet my biggest and best discovery takes place on—where else?—Last Chance Gulch.

I've stepped inside the Parrot Confectionery, a Helena institution that has been family-owned since 1922. Now this is what I call color. Chocolate-covered caramels, almond butter toffee, Turkish delight. The candy counter is every mom's and dad's worst nightmare, but every dentist's greatest joy.

I think I know where that Taurus was speeding to reach, and now, I can't really blame the driver.

Reinvigorated by my sugar high, I head out for the Last Chance Gulch walking tour. The app helps me find the Clarke, Conrad & Curtin hardware store. On Main Street, between this store and the now-gone Bank Exchange Saloon, John Bull killed gambler Langford Peel in 1867.

You'll discover that this year is great for prospecting Helena's rich frontier history of gunfights and gold, not only because of the 150th anniversary of the gold strike. It's also Montana Territory's sesquicentennial and the centennial of Montana's passage of women's suffrage. Even more, 2014 marks the 150th birthday of Russell, the greatest Western artist of all time.

Sorry, Bob Boze Bell, but you'll always rank No. 2 with me, providing I get my check in time.



Johnny D. Boggs recommends you look both ways, six or seven times, before crossing any street in downtown Helena...then run like crazy.

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# Spicing Up the Frontier

*Pioneers needed money for taxes...and spices.*

**E**lario Cardova, born in 1861 and raised in Texas, recalled the value of spices, “We obtained our berries and fruits from the wild vegetation in the woods.... Thus our fruit was obtained without the use of money. Likewise, nuts of various kinds, such as the pecan, hazel and chestnut....There was some money spent for thread and buttons, and our shoes was the major clothing bill. We needed money for taxes, which was negligible, money for spices, tea, coffee and medicine.”

Spices—both savory and sweet—can determine whether food is just sustenance or pure enjoyment. They were, and still are, crucial to making food taste good.

John Fletcher was another Texas native, born in 1868, whose recollection about spices was similar to Cardova's: “The articles needed were thread, buttons, some store cloth, boots, hats and spices, and other articles to season food with.”

Popular spices during the 1860s to 1870s included black pepper, Cassia (cinnamon), cloves, ginger, mace, mustard, nutmeg and pimento (berries from the allspice tree). Mace, the outer membrane of the nutmeg, was extremely popular. By 1880, merchants advertised stick cinnamon and offered spices in cans and bottles.

Various companies imported spices, but a name you might know well is Durkee, a spice company that started in 1850. By

1888, it was the first to offer consumer-sized packagings, which were tinfoil and lined with paper. Before those, most mercantile stores sold spices in bulk that were then put into bags.

Pioneer cooks often used many of

those spices to make “tomato catsup.” It was called tomato catsup because catsup was also made with other ingredients such as mushrooms and walnuts. An 1884 dictionary lists catsup and refers you to “catchup.” The catchup definition

“It was the mystery of the day...why every man poured catsup into his glass.”



— BY SHERRY MONAHAN —

## TOMATO CATSUP

- 2½ c. tomatoes
- 1 tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. whole peppercorns, bruised
- 3 tsp. pepper flakes
- ½ tsp. cinnamon sticks
- ¼ tsp. mace (or nutmeg)
- ¾ tsp. mustard seeds
- ½ tsp. whole allspice
- 3 garlic cloves, peeled and sliced
- ¼ tsp. whiskey, brandy or cider vinegar

Either cook fresh tomatoes to yield 2½ cups or use canned. Blend the tomatoes and salt in a saucepan with an immersion blender. Put the remainder of the spices in a piece of cheesecloth and tie. If using vinegar, add it now. Bring tomatoes and salt to a boil and then add the spice bag. Cook over low heat for about one to three hours for your desired thickness. Remove from the heat and take out the spice bag. If using whiskey or brandy, add it now. Put into a storage container and refrigerate. The original recipe states this will keep for 20 years if corked properly!



Adapted from *Daily Bulletin Supplement*,  
San Francisco, California, September 23, 1876

is “catsup, ketchup. A sauce made of mushrooms, walnuts or tomatoes.” The words catsup, catchup and ketchup were interchangeable. Heinz became popular in the 1870s and used the word ketchup, which is still common today.

Cooks often used whiskey to preserve catsup, but one restaurant in Omaha, Nebraska, served catsup “whiskey” before every meal. “There is...a lower N street restaurant in which a big odd-shaped bottle ornaments the center of the table....”

A local printer patronized the restaurant often and noticed the bottle had no label. *The World-Herald* reported in 1893, “...so the printer supplied one bearing the number ‘310’ in big figures. It so happens that the number is the name for a favorite brand of booze sold by a nearby dispensary. It was the mystery of the day why the bottle was so quickly emptied and why every man poured catsup into his glass.”



Sherry Monahan has penned *Mrs. Earp: Wives & Lovers of the Earp Brothers*; *California Vines, Wines & Pioneers*; *Taste of Tombstone*; *The Wicked West* and *Tombstone's Treasure*. She's appeared on the History Channel in *Lost Worlds* and other shows.

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# Gold & Gambling

*History thrives in Deadwood, South Dakota.*

**T**wice Wild Bill Hickok asked to change seats with Charlie Rich at the poker table. Twice he refused.

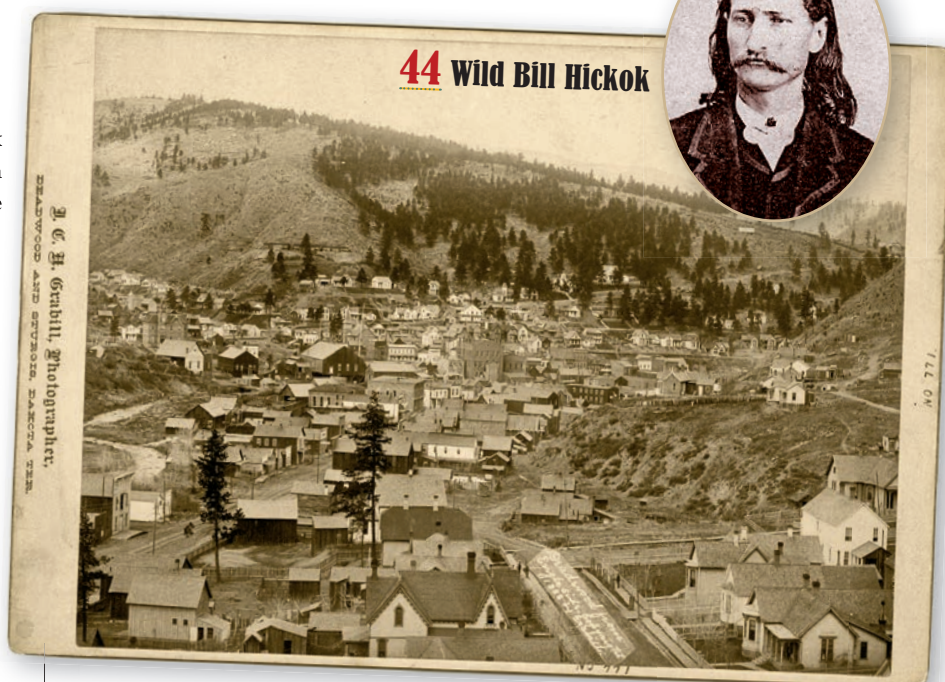
Although, with his back to the door and engrossed in a hand, Hickok may have noticed Jack McCall stroll into Nuttal & Mann's Saloon on the afternoon of August 2, 1876. But Hickok did not consider McCall enough of a threat to stop playing poker. At point blank range, McCall raised his gun and fired into the back of Hickok's head, shouting, "Damn you! Take that!"

Just like that, the man who had survived innumerable gunfights, assaults and attacks, was dead.

"Wild Bill was the icon of the day," says Randy Christensen, director of the Deadwood Alive Gunslingers re-enactment troupe. "With all the dime novels out there, his popularity was phenomenal. People just idolized him. His [Hickok's] death was like one of today's top movie-stars had been murdered."

There are several theories as to why McCall, a 20-something sometime buffalo hunter, shot Hickok. McCall claimed Hickok had killed his brother in Kansas. Some say the owners of the town's saloons, gambling halls and brothels paid McCall to get rid of Hickok, whom they feared might take a job as sheriff and crimp their profits. But the truth was probably more mundane. After McCall lost a bundle at the poker table the day before, Hickok gave him some spare change to buy a meal and advised him to gamble more carefully next time.

**"His death was like one of today's top movie-stars had been murdered."**



In 1888, John C.H. Grabill photographed Deadwood (above) nearly 10 years after a fire in 1879 burned 300 buildings and the town was rebuilt in brick and stone. Nuttal & Mann's saloon, where Jack McCall had killed James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok (inset) in 1876, was destroyed in the fire and rebuilt in another location.

— COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —

Apparently, McCall took it as an insult and refused the money.

Released after a short, illegal trial (no rule of law on Indian land) McCall hightailed it out of town with Hickok's supporters on his heels. While he

boasted he had killed the famed gunfighter, Hickok's friends got McCall arrested, tried in a real court and hanged. Christensen and troupe re-create Hickok's murder and McCall's trial every day throughout the summer, giving visitors a dramatic lesson in Old West history.

Like many a boomtown, Deadwood was founded on gold. Even though the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie ceded the Black Hills region to the Lakota Sioux "forever," the discovery of gold in 1874 (by

an expedition led by Lt. Col. George Custer) changed everything. The government tried to keep the discovery a secret, but word got out and, by some estimates, more than 20,000 gold seekers made their way to the region over the next few years.

In 1875 John Pearson found gold in a narrow canyon full of dead trees, which became known as Deadwood Gulch. By 1876 the main part of the mining camp was known as Deadwood City. Located—quite illegally—on Indian land, there were no laws and no government. And that seemed to suit some folks just fine.

The lawless town attracted such icons of the Old West as Wyatt and Morgan Earp, Doc Holliday and Martha (Calamity) Jane Canary (who was buried next to Hickok in the Mount Moriah Cemetery). Other townsfolk included Al Swearingen (the ruthless owner of the Gem Theatre), and

the dapper Colorado Charlie Utter, who organized and paid for Hickok's funeral.

Seth Bullock, who served as the town's first sheriff, spent a whopping \$40,000 to build the Bullock Hotel in 1894. The three-story hotel was a model of luxury, with steam heat and indoor plumbing. Fully restored, it's the most popular hotel in town.

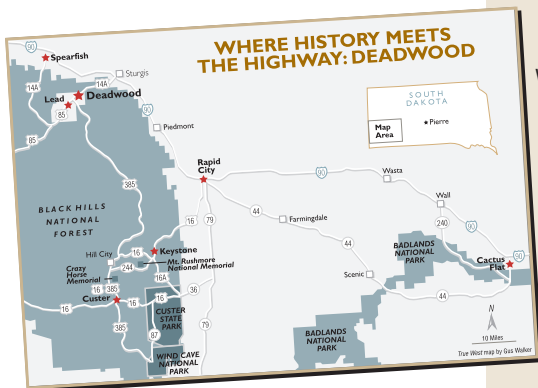
With the revival of gambling in the 1980s, Deadwood has come full circle. In addition to boosting the town's economy, gaming funds a slew of programs to restore historic buildings and preserve the old mining town's Wild West heritage.

**John Stanley**, the Arizona Wildlife Federation's 2007 Conservation Media Champion, is a former travel reporter and photographer for *The Arizona Republic*.



Days of '76 Parade down Deadwood's historic Main Street has been a centerpiece of the five-day celebration of the founding of the Wild West town for 92 years.

— BY CHAD COPPES/  
COURTESY SOUTH DAKOTA DEPT. OF TOURISM —



## WHERE HISTORY MEETS THE HIGHWAY

Thanks to the HBO series *Deadwood*, it's easy to visualize the region's gritty past. You can visit the famous Old Style Saloon #10, with "artifacts" like "Wild Bill's Death Chair" (above), even though trial transcripts say he was sitting on a stool. There's also a whole lot of history to visit in the Black Hills region near Deadwood.

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No trip to the region is complete without a visit to the Crazy Horse Memorial near Custer, and Mount Rushmore National Memorial near Keystone.

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By Allen Barra and Margaret Barra



**T**

here isn't one Old West, there are many, as different as the Spanish-flavored architecture of San Antonio is to the Victorian facades of Deadwood with locales as diverse as the hearty mountain settings of Meeker, Colorado, to the sun and sea washed streets of Old San Diego. The 18 hotels we've selected here each offer a different slice of life in the frontier West ranging from the rustic simplicity, to Gilded Age elegance of the 19th century with 21st century convenience. You can share historical ties with the literary and lawless, presidents and pioneers, gunfighters, gamblers and ghosts. You can watch a cattle drive, pan for gold, angle for mountain trout, buck-the-tiger's odds at a casino or just belly up to the bar and enjoy the honky-tonk piano. Your possibilities are as limitless as the frontier itself.

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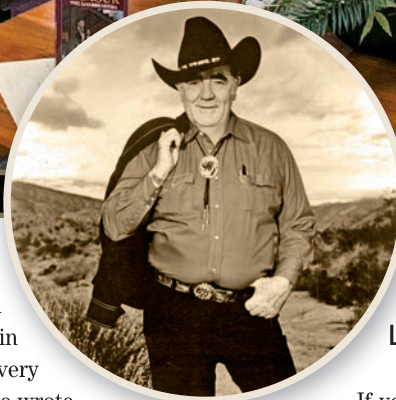
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DURANGO, COLORADO**

Established in 1887, the Strater Hotel has remained a cornerstone of Durango's hospitality community for 127 years.

The Mahogany Grille has an outstanding reputation: the pan-fried trout and garlic rubbed rib-eye steak come highly recommended; outdoor adventures such as hiking, rafting and skiing. The hotel itself, though, is an outstanding attraction with what is reputed to be the world's largest collection of American Victorian walnut antiques. Room 222 has been

designated as the Louis L'Amour Room (see Louis L'Amour in inset), featuring the very drop-leaf table where he wrote his Sackett series novels. And with the Henry Strater Theatre, you can book dinner and a show. (Also check to see if the Durango Melodrama and Vaudeville is open.)

The Strater is also just two blocks from the Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad, where you can take a ride to Silverton, or visit Mesa Verde National Park, just an hour away.

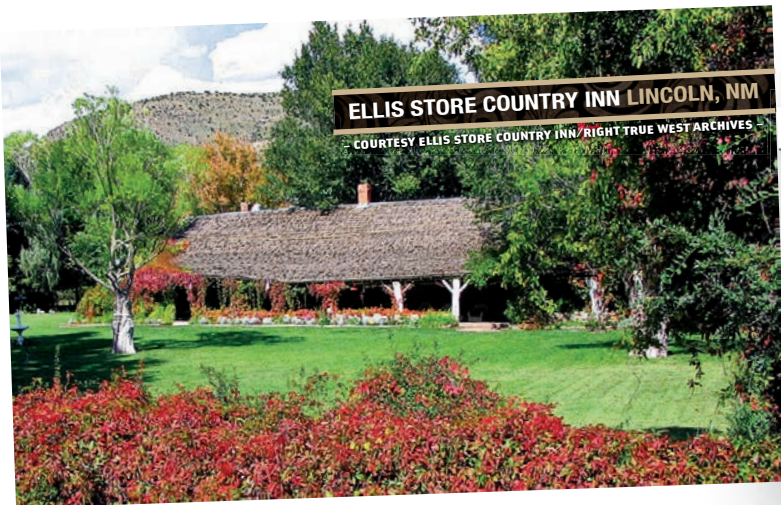


**ELLIS STORE  
COUNTRY INN  
LINCOLN, NEW MEXICO**

If you're an amateur student of the Lincoln County War, and the Billy the Kid legend, this is the place for you. The Ellis Store was the center of action during the five-day Battle of Lincoln, and you can actually stay in a room where Billy (below) was held prisoner for several days. (We can't swear that it's haunted, but some visitors elect to sleep with the lights on.)

This charming B&B is decorated with reproduction antiques and quilts. The Main House is an adobe dating from the 1850s, and the outlying guest houses feature bedrooms with a shared common room. Bonus: each guest room has a wood burning stove.

The setting in the Rio Bonito Valley is spectacular and the sky is so clear at night that you feel you can almost touch the stars.



ELLIS STORE COUNTRY INN LINCOLN, NM  
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45 Billy the Kid

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Photo: Sarah Woody



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THE OCCIDENTAL HOTEL BUFFALO, WY

— LEFT COURTESY THE OCCIDENTAL HOTEL/BELOW TRUE WEST ARCHIVES —



## THE OCCIDENTAL HOTEL BUFFALO, WYOMING

With many original features such as the embossed ceilings and the back bar in the saloon, which was brought in by a wagon, the Occidental, whose structure can be traced to 1880, is stunning. After the Great Flood of 1912 destroyed most of Buffalo, the hotel had to replace all its flooring.

The Occidental also claims the bullet holes are original; they could have been put there by Calamity Jane, Buffalo Bill Cody or some of Butch Cassidy's Wild Bunch (above right). Or even any of the Occidental's more civilized guests—Gen. Phil Sheridan, President Theodore Roosevelt or Ernest Hemingway—could have lit up the bar on a rowdy night. Perhaps no other location in the Old West can boast so many famous guests.

The Occidental is a virtual museum with wall after wall of photographs, historical artifacts and antiques. A unique and delightful touch is the collection of antique radios which play shows and music from the 1920s, '30s and '40s throughout the hotel.

The restaurant is named The Virginian after another frequent guest, novelist Owen Wister. Highly recommended is the specialty of the house, the mouth-watering buffalo steaks.



## 47 Doc Holliday

## THE HOTEL COLORADO GLENWOOD SPRINGS, COLORADO

"The Grand Dame of the Rockies" is the main attraction in a town that originally drew visitors such as Doc Holliday for its vapor baths and pools. Established in 1893, the Hotel Colorado maintains its original motif of 19th century Italian elegance. Its guests have included several presidents, most notably Teddy Roosevelt who, in 1905, made the hotel his base for a three week hunting trip. Another frequent and famous visitor was the "Unsinkable" Molly Brown, whose name adorns one of the hotel's most

## 46 The Wild Bunch

popular suites, replete with mementos and photos of her adventures from the Colorado gold rush to the *Titanic*. There are also mementoes of the Chicago gangsters who came for the gambling during the Roaring Twenties. Aficionados of Western history come for pilgrimages to Doc Holliday (below left) at his burial site in the Linwood Cemetery.



THE HOTEL COLORADO GLENWOOD SPRINGS, CO

— COURTESY THE HOTEL COLORADO/INSET BILL KOCH COLLECTION —



**ELDRIDGE HOTEL LAWRENCE, KS**



- TOP COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS/ABOVE ELDRIDGE HOTEL -

**ELDRIDGE HOTEL  
LAWRENCE, KANSAS**

“The most historic corner in Kansas” is the site of the Eldridge Hotel, which has gone through several incarnations since it’s beginning as the Free State Hotel in 1861. The Free State was burned down twice by Confederates, the second time in 1863 by Quantrill’s Raiders. It was named the Eldridge after Col. Shalor Eldridge, one of the original New England emigrants who founded the city.

The latest restoration harkens back to the hotel’s glory years of the mid-1920s. A recent restoration restored the hotel to these glory years as seen by the dazzling polished wood walls of the lobby and bar.

The fifth floor, particularly Room 506, has had numerous reports of unregistered visitors, including flickering lights and opening and closing doors.

While in Lawrence check out the Watkins Community Museum, managed by the Douglas County Historical Society, and the old Lawrence Public Library building houses an exhibit on the Bleeding Kansas era.

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Memories*



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you step into the lobby, which is bigger than some hotels.

If you're a fan of vintage trains, you can catch the Grapevine Vintage Railroad at Stockyards Station, and for the ultimate cowboy experience, there's the World's Only Daily Cattle drive,

which is twice a day.

As you might expect, the Stockyards District is home to some of the best steakhouses in Texas which, by definition, means the best in the world, especially the Hunter Brothers' H3 Ranch. There

are more great saloons than you can take in on one visit; the saloon in the hotel with the famous "saddle bar stools" is Booger Red's while the White Elephant always has some live smokin' Country Rock. Oh, and Billy Bob's Texas bills itself as "The World's Largest Honky Tonk"—we haven't seen them all but Billy Bob's was sure big enough for us. Other attractions include the Saturday Night Rodeo at the Cowtown Coliseum and the Pawnee Bill Wild West Show.

Among the hotels satisfied guests were Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow (above far left). Ask for Room 305 if you don't mind the water in the bathroom turning on and off for reasons that has never been explained.

## STOCKYARDS HOTEL FORT WORTH, TEXAS

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## THE CROCKETT HOTEL SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Built on the site of “Crockett’s Palisades”—to the right of the Alamo chapel as you’re facing it—the Crockett Hotel could honestly advertise that you can sleep where they fell. The current six story building was originally built in 1909 with a seven-story west wing added in 1927. A 1982 renovation maintained the hotel’s historical integrity.



No one who comes here will need to be reminded of the history. The Chapel and Long Barracks are practically outside the hotel’s front door. You can tour the Chapel and visit the museum in the Barracks that contains paintings, artifacts and weapons from the

era. A later addition to the complex has a diorama that re-creates the Alamo (inset) as it stood at the time of the Texas Revolution.

In addition, the Gateway to the Riverwalk and an upscale shopping mall

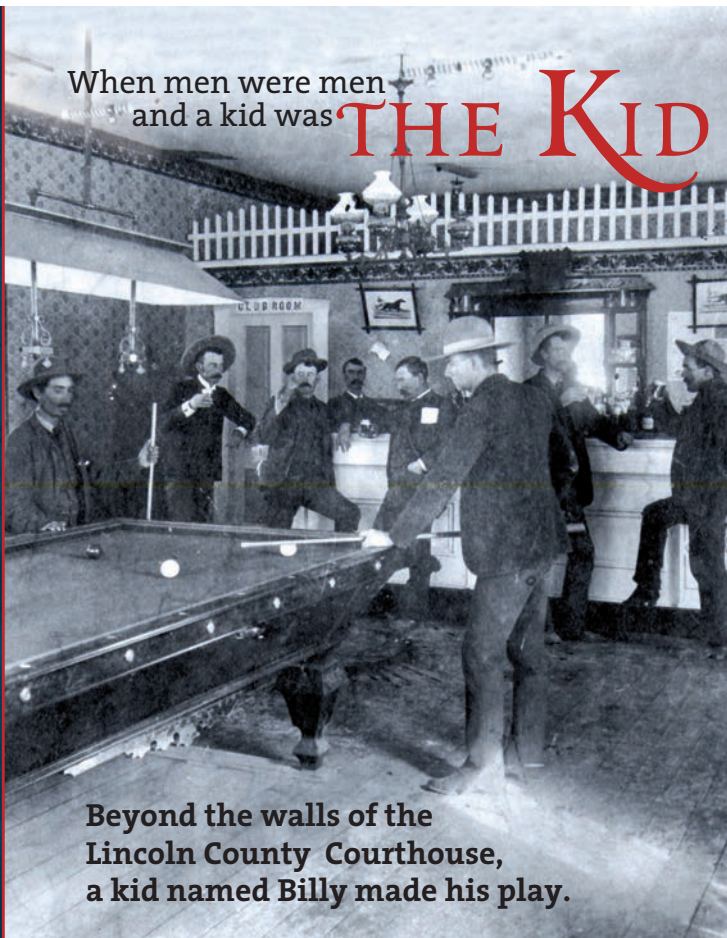
is just across the street. A trolley tour takes you to the sights, including the highly recommended River San Antonio Cruise. And at 8:15 p.m., there’s a nightly ghost tour.



COURTESY CROCKETT HOTEL / INSET LIBRARY OF CONGRESS -  
THE CROCKETT HOTEL SAN ANTONIO, TX

When men were men  
and a kid was

# THE KID



Beyond the walls of the Lincoln County Courthouse, a kid named Billy made his play.

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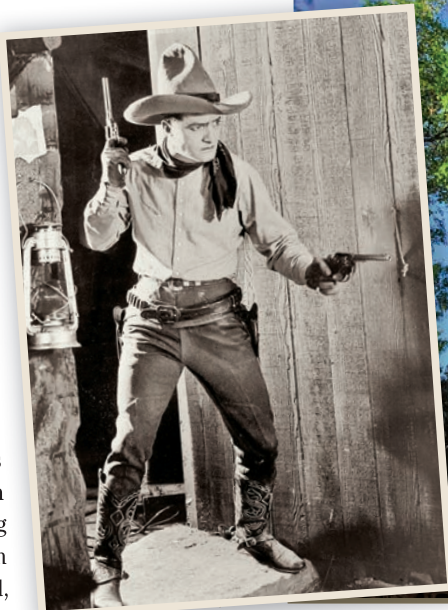


## THE VENDOME PRESCOTT, ARIZONA

The town that can claim Virgil Earp as a marshal is a thriving city of 40,000 with, as it proudly reminds you, a “small town feel.” The charming Vendome where Tom Mix (above) stayed, was built in 1917

and has 20 guest rooms, each with a different style ranging from Victorian to Western to contemporary. There are two wonderful wraparound porches perfect for relaxing and enjoying the mountain air (as well as the libations from The Fremont Bar (named for former territorial governor John C.).

There may not be a lovelier town in the West to stroll around in, from Whiskey Row’s saloons and shop to the historic Courthouse Square. The remarkable seven-building Sharlot Hall Museum offers a feast of pioneer and American Indian artifacts. And Prescott is less than 70 miles from Sedona.



THE VENDOME PRESCOTT, AZ — COURTESY THE VENDOME / INSET TRUE WEST ARCHIVES —

## BULLOCK HOTEL DEADWOOD, SOUTH DAKOTA

The “Jewel of Downtown Deadwood” was built in 1895 by Deadwood’s first sheriff, Seth Bullock (inset), after the 1894 fire, which wiped out much of the town, on the site of his original hardware store. Despite a couple of fires and subsequent renovations, the Bullock has kept its original elegant 19th century Victorian atmosphere.

And this is as close to the real thing as you can get, with the hotel still maintaining 28 of the original 63 rooms. The history of the hotel as well as everything else in Deadwood is documented at the Adam’s Museum.

According to local legend Bullock still walks the hotel’s corridors, particularly the second and third floors. (Though, ladies seeking the ghostly image of Timothy Olyphant, who played him in the HBO series, might be disappointed.)

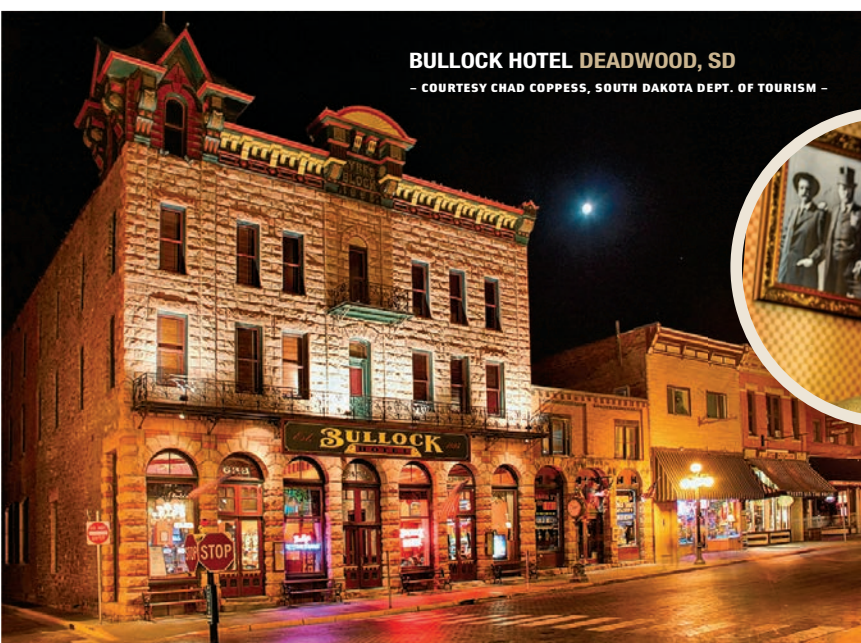
Nearby attractions include the Buffalo Bodega Gambling Complex and at the right time of year you can catch a rodeo at Days of 76 Rodeo Arena.

Gold, gambling and gunfighters—what more could you ask for?

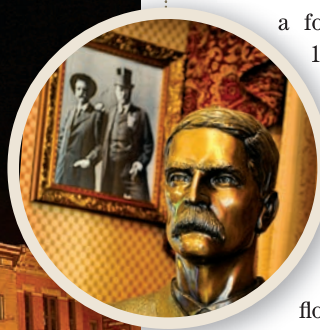
## THE MEEKER HOTEL MEEKER, COLORADO

The Meeker is unique among our hotels in at least one respect: it’s the only one where the founder was killed on the premises. Charlie Dunbar and Susan Wright started the Meeker in an adobe building, a former military barracks, in 1884. A professional gambler, Dunbar was fatally wounded during an argument about a poker game. The current hotel is built on the site of the original adobe.

The Meeker Hotel is famous for its hardwood floors, hand stitched leather chairs and custom-forged wood-burning stove; the walls are filled with photographs of past guests, including Theodore Roosevelt and actor Gary Cooper (opposite page, at top). And you’ll never forget the enormous elk and mule deer



BULLOCK HOTEL DEADWOOD, SD  
— COURTESY CHAD COPPES, SOUTH DAKOTA DEPT. OF TOURISM —





trophies, a few of which have been looking down on travelers entering the lobby for more than a century.

This is the place for you if you're looking for something out of the main stream. The natural beauty of the area is stunning.



THE MEEKER HOTEL MEEKER, CO

- COURTESY TRUE WEST ARCHIVES/BELOW THE MEEKER HOTEL



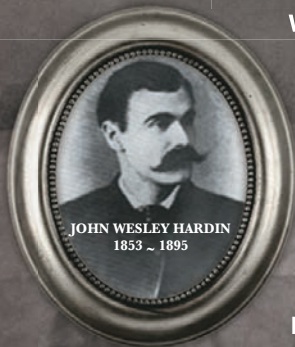
While you are in town, don't miss the White River Museum and Range Call Rodeo, the oldest rodeo in Colorado, which features a re-enactment of the infamous Meeker Massacre of 1879, during which warriors from the Ute tribe killed settlers and the town's founder, Nathan Meeker.

**BUFFALO BILL'S IRMA HOTEL  
CODY, WYOMING**

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**BUFFALO BILL'S IRMA HOTEL CODY, WY** - COURTESY TRUE WEST ARCHIVES/INSET IRMA HOTEL -



and named it after his daughter. The hotel was expanded in 1929 and 1977. When Cody needed a break from the constant mooing of his thousand head of cattle at his TE Ranch, he headed to one of the two suites and office he kept at the Irma. One of the most distinctive features of the Irma is the spectacular cherry wood bar, a gift from Queen Victoria.

From June to September there are free performances by the Cody Gunfighters (just about the best team of re-enactors around), summers feature the Cody Nite Rodeo and of course Yellowstone is a short drive away.

### HASSAYAMPA INN PRESCOTT, ARIZONA

In 1927, the Hassayampa Inn was founded in Prescott as the latest, most sophisticated, motor hotel along the "Hassayampa Trail," the new U.S. Highway 60-89 from Phoenix via Wickenburg to Prescott and Ash Fork.



"JUNIOR BONNER" 72/197

The hotel belongs to the National Register of Historic Places, and has a history as colorful as its name, rooted in the 19th-century panorama of Prescott's frontier history. The hotel, named after the river that the Walker Party followed from Wickenburg to discover gold in the Prescott area in 1863, was conceived as a retreat, where travelers would emerge refreshed and renewed.

Prescott, a then popular stopover on the Western circuit, was known for its brothels, saloons and opium dens around then-notorious Whiskey Row. A fine hotel was needed, and civic leaders, recognizing the boon to the town's image, encouraged citizens to buy shares in the project for \$1 each. More than 400 of them did, and their names are still

commemorated on a wall outside the Hassayampa Inn's Arizona Room.

The Inn has welcomed numerous famous guests over the years including Presidents, entertainers and socialites. Notable Western stars include Tom Mix, Will Rogers, Tom Selleck, Sam Elliott and Steve McQueen (below left, in foreground), to name a few.

### HOTEL JEFFREY COULTERVILLE, CALIFORNIA

If you're taking the family to Yosemite, a stop at the Hotel Jeffrey in Coulterville on the newly designated Historic Highway 132 is a must. About a half hour ride from the Park, the Jeffrey boasts the oldest working saloon in California with one of the few remaining sets of "batwing" doors

The 19 guest rooms and splendid Victorian dining room have been host to



**HASSAYAMPA INN PRESCOTT, ARIZONA**

COURTESY HASSAYAMPA INN/INSET ABC PICTURES -

two types of guests: normal—including Mark Twain, Teddy Roosevelt and early American preservationist John Muir (latter two shown below) and paranormal. At least 17 ghosts have been identified roaming the halls, and only a couple of them have been reported as unfriendly. (The hotel offers ghost detecting kits, but best to reserve in advance.)

— COURTESY CAROL HIGHSMITH—HOTEL JEFFREY/INSET TRUE WEST ARCHIVES —  
HOTEL JEFFREY COULTERVILLE, CA



Built in 1850, the Jeffrey notes that it is not a luxury hotel and is a combination hotel and B&B which is closed at night. Each room is distinctively decorated and children are welcome.

Coulterville is in the heart of northern California's gold country and gold can still be found in the creek that runs through town. Gold panning is a favorite activity, but if you want to see what pans out for you, reserve in advance.

**THE COSMOPOLITAN  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**

The Cosmopolitan can trace its lineage back to San Diego's "Old Town" in the late 1820s, when one of the town's pioneers, Juan Lorenzo Bandini, built a large single story home for his wife and two daughters in a Spanish Colonial style with muslin ceilings,

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THE COSMOPOLITAN SAN DIEGO, CA

—COURTESY THE COSMOPOLITAN HOTEL—



adobe walls and a brick-lined patio La Casa de Bandini, as it was quickly known. After Bandini's death, a man named Albert Seeley bought the house, expanded it with a second level with a Greek Revival theme and built a bar and a billiards room. He also added the Cosmopolitan most famous and distinguished feature—a grand balcony that wrapped around the entire second story, overlooking the town square.

In 1928, Old San Diego became a backwater and the building deteriorated; a grandson of Bandini restored it, adding electricity. Today, the Cosmopolitan is one of the jewels of Old Town, featuring a restaurant that serves some of the best Mexican and seafood in the city. Don't miss drinks in The Saloon Bar, which features an 1870 bar (above right) that Wyatt Earp allegedly bought from an Idaho bar for his in Tombstone, but after the O.K. Corral, it was never used. Found in storage 130 years later, it is the centerpiece of the authentic period restoration of the saloon.

Perusers of the paranormal will be interested in the episode of the Travel Channel's Ghost Adventures series that featured Suites Four and Five, the rooms where Bandini lived for years.

## THE SENTINEL HOTEL PORTLAND, OREGON

Recently renamed and reopened as the Sentinel Hotel, the elegant, luxury hotel is located in the heart of Portland's historic district in two early 20th century buildings: the Seward Hotel (1909) and the Elk's

Lodge (1923). Noted Oregon architect William C. Knighton designed the hotel in a Viennese-influenced Early Modern and modified Arts and Crafts style that remains one of Portland's most important architectural landmarks.

At the center of Portland's commercial and social network for decades, after WWII the hotel went on a slow decline (and abandonment as a hotel) until it was completely renovated and reopened in the 1990s, expanding and conjoining itself with the Elks Lodge next door. The hotel, which has been extensively updated since 2012, has incorporated the Elks Lodge's unique 7,500-square-foot Governor Ballroom with 40-foot Corinthian-columns, the frescoed Renaissance Room and black-walnut lined Library into the public venues.

Diners' can enjoy Jake's Grill, a downtown favorite since 1994, located in the lobby of the original Seward Hotel. The Jackknife Bar just opened this spring as a classic redux of a vintage hotel lounge swinging with downtown nightlife. Enjoy the luxury rooms after an evening enjoying Portland's nightlife, but don't wander too long in the hallways—you may meet up with the spirit of a young girl killed accidentally in the hotel a century ago.

## THE ST. JAMES CIMARRON, NEW MEXICO

The St. James was built in 1872 when Abraham Lincoln's personal chef, French-born Henri Lambert moved to Elizabethtown, New Mexico, to prospect gold. Lambert's failure was to prove fortunate to travelers when he took the little gold he had found and opened a restaurant and saloon in Cimarron. The Lambert Inn was later renamed the St. James. The food was great, but some



THE SENTINEL HOTEL PORTLAND, OR

of the guests didn't live to enjoy it. There were so many gunfights in the early years that town's people would ask "who was killed at Lambert's last night?" In 1901, when Lambert's sons replaced the ceiling in the dining room, they found more the 20 bullet holes.

Wyatt and Morgan Earp and their wives stayed there on their way to Tombstone,



**THE ST. JAMES CIMARRON, NM**

— COURTESY NEW MEXICO TOURISM DEPT./ST. JAMES HOTEL —

and other famous guests included Bill Cody, Clay Allison, Annie Oakley and Black Jack Ketchum.

In 2009, during extensive renovations, the outside deck and lawn were walled into a courtyard and a fountain added. The food is excellent, and the downstairs has a museum-like collection of photographs of famous guests. Visitors can stay either in the historical section of the hotel or in the modern addition. You can book Room 16, which Wyatt Earp may have stayed in on his way to Tombstone. The St. James is famous for having one of the highest numbers of ghost sightings of any Old West hotel.

### ST. GEORGE HOTEL VOLCANO, CALIFORNIA

You'll find this historic hotel slightly off the beaten path in Amador County in the Sierra Nevada Foothills of California in the town of Volcano, the "Gem of the Mother Lode." Volcano is one of the original Gold Rush towns in the Mother Lode and is known to having California's

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**ST. GEORGE HOTEL VOLCANO, CALIFORNIA** - COURTESY CAROL M. HIGHSMITH/LIBRARY OF CONGRESS -

first theater group, debating society, circulating library, private school, astronomical observatory and, legal hanging

Listed on the national Register of Historic Places, the St. George was one of the first three-story buildings in the State, the main hotel having been built in 1862. The Hotel, built by B.F. George, was named “The St. George” to “thwart the demonic Fire Dragon.” The first two Hotels on the site (Eureka in 1853 and Empire in 1859) were destroyed by fire. The Hotel was known in the late 1800s as the best Hotel in the County.

The St. George’s original architecture and ambiance offer guests a feeling of serenity and simpler times. Depending on who you talk to, it is rumored that ghosts roam the second and third floor of the hotel, with one room specifically being haunted.

**TAHOE HOUSE HOTEL**  
**VIRGINIA CITY, NEVADA**

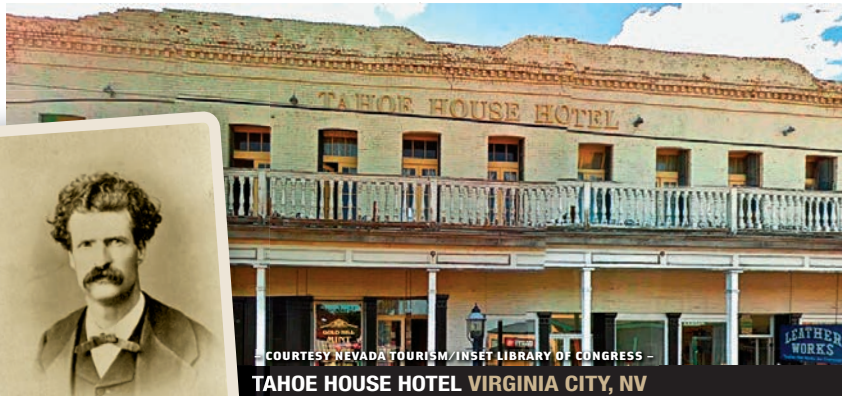
For period restoration circa 1860 (the original was built in 1859, the year the world found out there was



silver nearby) it’s hard to beat the Tahoe House Hotel in Virginia City. Guests can choose from 14 handsome rooms—five with balconies—as well as a Carriage House suite and a Garden Room.

If you don’t strike it rich in Reno (20-minute drive) or Lake Tahoe (about 45 minutes), you can still relive the days of the Comstock Lode at the Tahoe House. The restored old Western bar is one of the best in the country, and Squeek, their piano player, is renowned as the Val Cliburn the honky-tonk piano.

The Tahoe House is also a great stop for hikers, mountain and road cyclists, rock climbing and paragliders. By the way, if you see a nattily



COURTESY NEVADA TOURISM/INSET LIBRARY OF CONGRESS -

**TAHOE HOUSE HOTEL VIRGINIA CITY, NV**





dressed fellow in a white suit who looks like a young Mark Twain (opposite page, bottom inset)—be sure to say hello to the ghost of Mr. Clemens.



## WESTERN HOTEL DIRECTORY



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**The Hotel Colorado**  
Glenwood Springs, Colorado  
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**The Strater Hotel**, Durango, Colorado  
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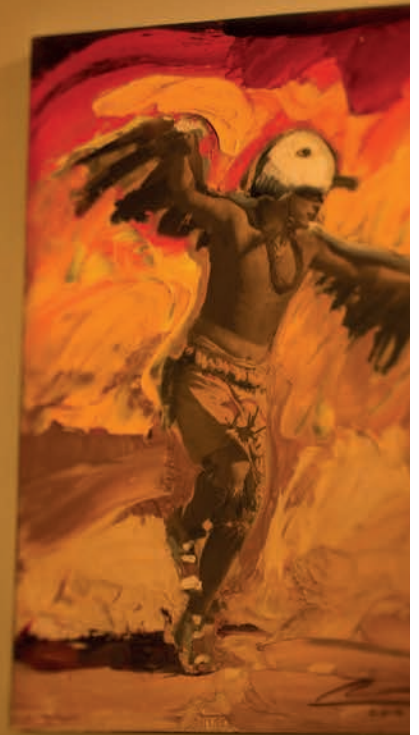
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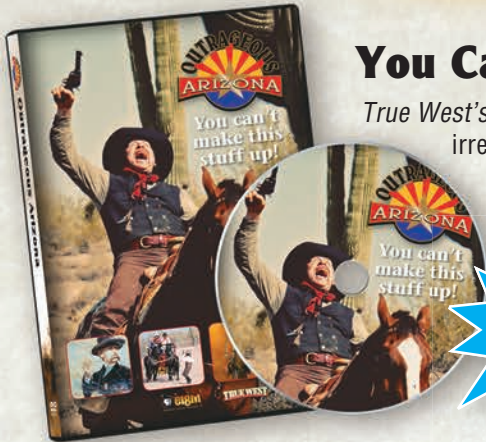
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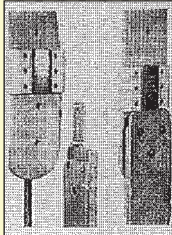
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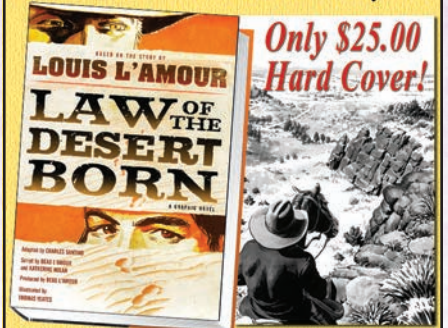


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# WESTERN ROUNDUP

FOR JULY 2014

## CHIEF JOSEPH DAYS RODEO

Joseph, OR, July 23-27:  
PRCA rodeo with bucking horse  
stampede, traditional Indian dance,  
parade and a friendship feast.  
541-432-1015 • [ChiefJosephDays.com](http://ChiefJosephDays.com)



## DODGE CITY DAYS

Dodge City, KS, July 25-Aug. 3: Celebration includes a PRCA rodeo, boot hill bull fry, chuckwagon breakfast and Western art show.  
620-227-3119 • [DodgeCityDays.com](http://DodgeCityDays.com)

## ADVENTURE

### KIT CARSON WAGON TRAIN

Monte Vista, CO, July 30-Aug. 2: Named after the famous frontiersman, this horseback ride with covered wagons joins parade for Ski Hi Stampede.  
719-850-1757 • [ColoradoCowgirls.net](http://ColoradoCowgirls.net)

## ART SHOWS

### AMERICAN PLAINS ARTISTS SHOW

San Angelo, TX, Opens July 1: A show and sale of more than 75 paintings and sculptures portraying various themes of the American West.  
325-481-2646 • [AmericanPlainsArtists.com](http://AmericanPlainsArtists.com)

### CALGARY STAMPEDE WESTERN ART SHOW

Calgary, AB, July 4-13: A collection of Western art by dozens of artists whose works were selected for display during the Calgary Stampede rodeo.  
800-661-1260 • [WesternShowcase.com](http://WesternShowcase.com)

### PRESCOTT INDIAN ART MARKET

Prescott, AZ, July 12-13: Displays of American Indian weavings, pottery, jewelry and paintings, plus cultural art and craft presentations.  
928-445-3122 • [Sharlot.org](http://Sharlot.org)

## HERITAGE FESTIVALS

### LIVING HISTORY DAYS AT FORT KEARNEY STATE HISTORICAL PARK

Kearney, NE, July 4-6: Walk into the past and experience history as it comes to life in civilian and soldier camps at this historic 1848 fort.  
308-865-5305 • [OutdoorNebraska.gov](http://OutdoorNebraska.gov)

### LARAMIE JUBILEE DAYS

Laramie, WY, July 5-13: Hometown celebration with a ranch rodeo, kid's horse show, junior bull riding match, parade, chili cook-off and brew fest.  
800-445-5303 • [LaramieJubileeDays.com](http://LaramieJubileeDays.com)

### OREGON TRAIL DAYS

Gering, NE, July 9-13: Celebrates the people who settled western Nebraska with a kickoff BBQ, old-fashioned parades and live music.  
308-632-2133 • [OTDays.com](http://OTDays.com)

### JOHN C. FREMONT DAYS

Fremont, NE, July 11-13: Celebration of the American pathfinder features a rodeo, historical tours, a parade and antique collectors show.  
402-727-9428 • [JohnCFremontDays.org](http://JohnCFremontDays.org)



## FORT STANTON LIVE!

Fort Stanton, NM, July 12-13: Chatauqua storytellers and Indian Wars and Civil War re-enactors bring the 1855 fort's history to life, plus a military ball.  
575-258-5702 • [FortStanton.org](http://FortStanton.org)

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# WESTERN ROUNDUP

FOR JULY 2014



## FORT DALLES DAYS PRO RODEO

The Dalles, OR, July 12-20: This NRPA rodeo and parade celebrates the town's history with donkey races, dances and a street fair.

541-296-2231

[FortDallesDays.com](http://FortDallesDays.com)

## GOLD RUSH DAYS

South Pass City, WY, July 12-13: Celebrate life in a Western gold camp with gold panning, live music and a vintage baseball tournament.  
307-332-3684 • [SouthPassCity.com](http://SouthPassCity.com)

## BUFFALO BILL DAYS

Golden, CO, July 24-28: A trail ride up to Lookout Mountain to visit Buffalo Bill Cody's grave, plus a Wild West show and a parade.  
303-279-3342 • [BuffaloBillDays.com](http://BuffaloBillDays.com)

## NATIONAL DAY OF THE AMERICAN COWBOY

Bandera, TX, July 27: Frontier Times Museum hosts a ranch rodeo, Western music and poetry concerts, and Old West re-enactments.  
830-796-3045 • [BanderaCowboyCapital.com](http://BanderaCowboyCapital.com)

## POWOWS

### NORTH CHEYENNE 4TH OF JULY POWWOW

Lame Deer, MT, July 3-6: Traditional food, dancing and more at the largest powwow held on the Northern Cheyenne reservation.  
406-477-6284 • [VisitMT.com](http://VisitMT.com)

## SACRED VISIONS POWWOW

Wadsworth, NV, July 18-20: Community of elders and youth gather to promote and preserve the traditions and cultures of the Northern Paiute.  
775-560-1551 • [PLT:nsn.us](http://PLT:nsn.us)

## JULYAMSH POWWOW

Post Falls, ID, July 26-28: The Coeur d'Alene tribe gathers for powwow dances, a memorial horse ride and an art show and auction.  
208-686-1800 • [Julyamsh.com](http://Julyamsh.com)

## RENDEZVOUS

### GREEN RIVER RENDEZVOUS

Pinedale, WY, July 10-13: Fur trade lectures and pageant honor an 1833 mountain man encampment, along with demonstrations at camp.  
307-367-2242 • [MeetMeOnTheGreen.com](http://MeetMeOnTheGreen.com)

## RODEOS

### PRESCOTT FRONTIER DAYS

Prescott, AZ, June 30-July 6: Since 1888, the "world's oldest rodeo" features steer roping, bull



## SHOOT-OUT ON WHISKEY ROW

Prescott, AZ, July 26-27: Watch the Southwest re-enactment competition hosted by Prescott Regulators & Their Shady Ladies, plus enjoy the 1800s costume contest.

928-445-1754 • [PrescottRegulators.org](http://PrescottRegulators.org)

riding, team roping plus a parade.  
866-407-6336 • [WorldsOldestRodeo.com](http://WorldsOldestRodeo.com)

**BUFFALO BILL CODY STAMPEDE RODEO**

Cody, WY, July 1-4: Professional rodeo includes bareback, saddle bronc and bull riding, roping, steer wrestling and barrel racing.  
800-207-0744 • [CodyStampedeRodeo.com](http://CodyStampedeRodeo.com)

**GRANGEVILLE BORDER DAYS**

Grangeville, ID, July 2-4: Idaho's oldest rodeo offers local team roping, barrel and steer riding, and a wild horse race, plus an art show.  
208-983-1372 • [GrangevilleBorderDays.org](http://GrangevilleBorderDays.org)

**LIVINGSTON ROUNDUP RODEO**

Livingston, MT, July 2-4: Since 1924, this rodeo boasts that its rodeo action features some of the best rough stock in the country.  
406-222-3199 • [LivingstonRoundup.com](http://LivingstonRoundup.com)



PHOTO BY: ANDY WATSON

**BUCKIN' WILD MUSIC FEST**

Erick, OK, July 18-19: Camp out and watch bull riding competitions while you take in the live music at Lost Creek Arena on historic Route 66.  
615-739-6597 • [BuckinWildMusicFest.com](http://BuckinWildMusicFest.com)

**CATLEMEN'S DAYS**

Gunnison, CO, July 10-12: This PRCA rodeo offers horse and livestock shows, animal exhibits, evening carnival and cowboy poetry.  
970-641-1501 • [CattlemensDays.com](http://CattlemensDays.com)

**SNAKE RIVER STAMPEDE RODEO**

Nampa, ID, July 11-19: PRCA rodeo features bull and saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, bareback bronc riding and tie-down roping.  
208-466-8497 • [SnakeRiverStampede.com](http://SnakeRiverStampede.com)

**NEBRASKA'S BIG RODEO**

Burwell, NE, July 23-26: This outdoor rodeo features bareback, saddle bronc and bull riding events, plus calf and team roping contests.  
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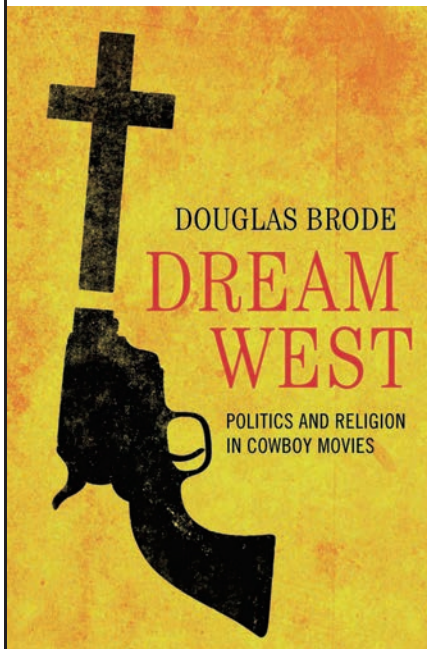
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# An Unsolved Mystery

## Where is Lincoln County War figure Bob Olinger buried?

Johnny Crawley  
Salem, Oregon

Bob "Pecos Bob" Olinger was killed by Billy the Kid during his escape from the Lincoln County jail in Lincoln, New Mexico, on April 28, 1881. A marker notes the spot where Olinger died.

"The mystery of the location of Pecos Bob's grave has never really been solved," Lincoln County historian Drew Gomber says. "He is not buried in any of the five cemeteries in Lincoln though. He was buried in the old soldiers' cemetery at Fort Stanton, and I think I found the grave some years back, as there had clearly been a headstone that had been removed.... There is also a story of his family coming and retrieving the body, but my inclination is to think he is at the fort."



## Was horse theft a capital offense during the Old West era?

Anthony Grizzell  
Sacramento, California

American law doesn't use capital punishment for property crimes like horse theft. Bob Palmquist, an attorney in Tucson, Arizona, says he doesn't know of any territory or state where anyone was legally hanged for horse theft. Arizona and New Mexico, under pressure from the railroads, made train robbery a capital crime around 1890, but it was rescinded when juries refused to convict a train robber when he hadn't killed anybody during the heist.

Stealing a man's horse was a serious offense in a land where being left afoot could be fatal. Anti-horse theft associations worked through the legal system to prosecute horse thieves. But when the law did not bring a thief to justice, vigilantes often took charge and hanged thieves.

## What is a medicine wheel?

John Chambers  
San Jose, California

A medicine wheel, or sacred hoop, is indigenous to Indians in Canada and the northern states of the American West. The wheel, oriented to the four directions (north, south, east, west), represents the circle of life—harmony and peaceful interaction among living things.

Small medicine wheels decorate ceremonial drums symbolically, much

## 48 Bob Olinger

Bob Olinger (left) was feeding prisoners at the Wortley Hotel when he heard a shot across the street, coming from the jail. He hurried over, and someone said, "Hello, Bob," from above. These were the last words he heard.

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## Ask The Marshall

BY MARSHALL TRIMBLE

Marshall Trimble is Arizona's official historian. His latest book is *Wyatt Earp: Showdown at Tombstone*.

If you have a question, write: Ask the Marshall, P.O. Box 8008, Cave Creek, AZ 85327 or e-mail him at [marshall.trimble@scottsdalecc.edu](mailto:marshall.trimble@scottsdalecc.edu)



Vigilante justice was not uncommon on the frontier as these accused murderers found out in August 1895.

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like kachina dolls represent supernatural beings to Hopi Indians. Authentic medicine wheels were usually stone and laid out in a particular pattern. Some were quite large, like the medicine wheel in the Bighorn Mountains near Sheridan, Wyoming, that extends for about 75 feet in diameter.

## True West's Feb. 2014 issue states that Josephine Sarah Marcus Earp's father was a common baker. Movies claim he was wealthy. Which is it?

Dr. Ron Nierenberg  
Marietta, Georgia

He was a baker; Josie made up the story about her family being rich in an effort to cover up her checkered past.

## Were duster coats common outerwear on the frontier?

Chris Evans  
Parowan, Utah

Yes, full-length canvas or linen dusters were pretty common outer garments for protecting folks from trail dust, especially for men or women who might be wearing a suit or nice clothes for a trip into town. Oil cloth or waxed cotton dusters also protected the wearer from the rain.

The James-Younger Gang wore dusters when the men tried to rob a bank in Northfield, Minnesota, in 1876.

Unfortunately for them, the coats didn't stop bullets.

**Was Jack Schaefer's book *Shane* based on any real-life Old West characters?**

David Fuller  
Lisbon, Connecticut

That's a tough one. Fictional characters come from the fertile imagination of writers, but authors often have some real person in mind. We do know that Schaefer based the plot on Wyoming's Johnson County War of the early 1890s, but it's unclear that he had any role models for the title character.

One Old West gunfighter I could liken to Shane was Jim Roberts. I became friends with his son Bill in the late 1960s. Jim moved to Pleasant Valley, Arizona, about the time the Graham-Tewksbury War broke out in the 1880s. He didn't go looking for trouble, but when some of the Grahams rustled his horses, he joined the other side. Jim was a dead shot and absolutely fearless, becoming the top gun for the Tewksburys. After the war ended, he hired out as a deputy sheriff for Yavapai County Sheriff Buckley O'Neill. Thus began a long, distinguished career as a peace officer in which he tamed several towns. He had his last gunfight in 1928 at the age of 70 when he brought down two bank robbers in Clarkdale.

I think Jim and Shane, both quiet men who didn't boast about their feats, had much in common. ✖



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What

# HISTORY

HAS TAUGHT ME

**Gunfighters intrigue me** because nothing is more dramatic than life and death conflict, especially when that conflict is carried out by men in big hats and boots, armed with six-shooters and Winchesters.

**Researching my book** *Encyclopedia of Western Gunfighters* required reading and annotating the books and articles that had been written by the mid-1970s. Of course, so much excellent research and writing has been done in the field since then; the task would take far longer today.

**The strangest Old West gunfighter** I've come across is the murderous Cullen Baker, who had a weird approach to women.

**A gunfighter who should be better known** is Arizona lawman Harry Wheeler.

**The toughest female gun-toter** was Belle Starr (she had to be tough, with her leathery looks).

**The most courageous gunfighter** was Nate Champion during Wyoming's Johnson County War.

**The struggle over good and evil** can be best seen in gunfighter Henry Brown, a two-gun shootist who alternated in deadly fashion between frontier outlawry and law enforcement.

**The scariest Old West gunfighter** I'd never want to run into is young John Wesley Hardin, who was kill-crazy.

**My father, a Mason, was** the first—but hardly the last—member of the Masonic Lodge to relate to me that after the 1836 Battle of San Jacinto, the vicious dictator Antonio López de Santa Anna saved his life by flashing the secret distress signal to fellow Mason Sam Houston.

**The Chisholm Trail has** always held a special appeal because my great-grandfather was a drover who helped shove cattle herds up the famous trail during the 1870s and 1880s.

**If a history class is** dull, it's the teacher's fault.

**My biggest influence has been** Dr. Ralph Goodwin, a brilliant historian of the Westward movement.

**A subject I'd like to** dig through the archives and get to know better is Ben Thompson.



Bill O'Neal will be giving a lecture on Colorado's cattle king John Wesley Iliiff (left) at this year's Wild West History Association, held in Denver, Colorado, from July 22-26.

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## John Wesley Hardin

This Texas terror killed his first man at the age of 15 and may have killed as many as 50. During his desperado career, from the 1860s until his death in 1895, Hardin was recognized by his peers as the West's deadliest gunfighter.

— COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION —



## BILL O'NEAL, TEXAS STATE HISTORIAN

The author of nearly 50 books, Bill O'Neal became Texas state historian in 2012. His next books will be about Sam Houston as a leader (for University of North Texas Press) and Texas gunslingers (for Arcadia Publishing). Although he retired as a history professor at Panola College in Carthage, Texas, he continues to teach at the college periodically. His honors include being named the "Best Living Nonfiction Writer" by this magazine and receiving the NOLA award for his 2004 book, *The Johnson County War*.

**Nearly all Westerns actors**, from Tom Mix through Clint Eastwood, have played a Texas Ranger character at least once.

**At this year's San Jacinto Day**, I was struck by the presence of Sam Houston IV, the great-grandson of Gen. Houston and grandson of Temple Houston, the general's youngest son and a gunfighter of proven skill.

**I am reading** James L. Haley's masterful biography of Sam Houston.

**The greatest gunfighter movies** are 1993's *Tombstone* and 2003's *Open Range*. As a teenager I was deeply influenced by 1960's *The Magnificent Seven*.

**Texas gunfighter Jess Standard** was not a gunfighter. We later found out that my great-grandfather was just a workaday cowboy—to my great disappointment!



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